

Kent on Sunday

www.kentnews.co.uk March 16, 2014

Mid Edition No 599

ARTS »

Yoko set for triennial

Arts festival secures services of the global icon

NEWS »

Fury over return of live exports
Controversial trade is back at port

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Venues of delight or despair; the bizarre grip of our hospitals

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They can go from cathedrals of joy and delight to tombs of misery and desolation.

As a consequence, communities grow deeply attached to the sites and it's easy to see why.

Sometimes, major changes to them can be positive. It is, after all, highly unlikely we will ever see the multi-million rebuild of Pembury Hospital again, for example. The former workhouse's transformation into a gleaming high-tech arena where the long wards were replaced with private rooms, was welcomed by pretty much everyone.

Yet, as Canterbury will experience, the debate over whether the Kent & Canterbury



Editor **Chris Britcher**

Hospital should leave its existing site altogether to be replaced with housing, is one which will split the community over the years to come. You can read the details of the proposals on our news pages.

And while that debate begins, those over the thorny issues of live animal exports and fracking are dusted off once more. The resumption of exports from Ramsgate left many fuming, while a number of major wildlife groups have united to insist there are tight restrictions on what seems to be the unstoppable arrival of fracking to our shores.

Inside we look at both issues in-depth once more. Be sure to let us know where you stand on all of them.

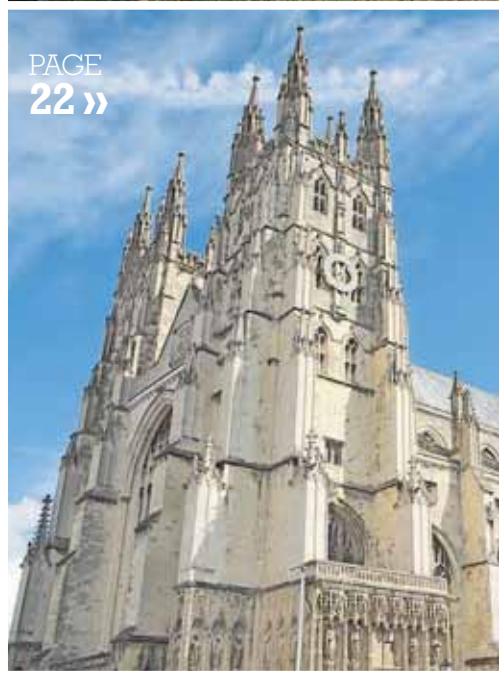
And finally, we meet a man who in 1939 left the comfort of his home to be evacuated to Tunbridge Wells. Some 75 years later we look at where it all began. Enjoy your weekend.



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HOW TO CONTACT US...

Publisher: Simon Irwin

Email simon.irwin@archant.co.uk

Editor: Chris Britcher

Email chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

Address:

Apple Barn, Smeeth, TN25 6SS

Editorial: News: 01303 817100

Leisure: 01303 817022

Sport: 01303 817177

Email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

Advertising:

Jobs/Notices: 01303 817056:

Business: 01303 817056

Email appointments@kosmedia.co.uk

Retail/Leisure/Motors: 01303 817150

Email sales@kosmedia.co.uk

Distribution: 01303 817072

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Published in Kent by Archant Community Media

Ltd (Co Reg No 19300), Registered Office:

Prospect House, Rouen Road, Norwich NR1 1RE

and printed by St Clements Press (1988) Ltd (Co

Reg No 2174119), Unit 3, International Business

Park, Rick Roberts Way, Stratford, London, E15 2NF

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Could hospital move out to make way for housing?

By Chris Britcher

chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

HEALTH chiefs are considering proposals to sell-off the site of the Kent & Canterbury Hospital and move to a modern, yet smaller purpose-built site elsewhere in the city.

While no decision has yet been made, the East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust, which runs the hospital, says it has suggested to Canterbury City Council the site be considered as part of the authority's Local Plan, which sets out housing objectives over the coming years.

The sprawling hospital site – which was first opened in 1937 and boasts 237-beds – occupies a prime site south of the city.

Health officials insist even if the plan to close down the site was given the go-ahead, it was committed to providing a “like-for-like” site in the district.

Any changes are unlikely to be fast however, with any potentially move some ten to 20 years off.

The NHS trust said: “The existing Kent & Canterbury site has a number of limiting factors such as potential room for growth and



HOSPITAL: NHS trust put forward plan to move Kent & Canterbury Hospital to smaller, modern, site

better and more direct access to road networks.

“The buildings on site are up to 75 years old and require significant investment and on-going maintenance.

“The trust therefore remains interested, and engaged, in the opportunities that could emerge through the Canterbury Local Plan process and contributing to the wider possible benefits that could emerge.

“To safeguard the best possible

opportunity, the trust has had discussions with Canterbury City Council to express a potential interest in any future allocation of land at south Canterbury. If the trust was to relocate off of the existing site we would be replacing services like for like, all be it for a potentially smaller site due to modern building efficiencies and better space planning.

“We are committed to retaining a hospital in Canterbury.

“The trust recognises the

importance of the hospital to the community of Canterbury and surrounding areas and has always been committed to ensuring its future. The trust routinely explores opportunities to ensure the best possible facilities are available for patient care and in doing so reviews the investment and capital needs to effectively plan for its future.”

Local Conservative MP Julian Brazier said the plans were “potentially good news”.

Cruel conman tricked cash out of passers-by with fake sob stories

A CRUEL conman who used an array of sob stories to trick kind strangers out of money – normally claiming his mother had just been involved in a car crash – has been jailed for almost a year.

David Bateman, 39, of Shakespeare Road, Sittingbourne, was jailed for 360 days after pleading guilty to five counts of fraud by false representation.

The swindler had approached people in the town centre and begged them for money, using a variety of tall tales.

In one incident, on December 2 last year, Bateman ran up to a woman in East Street crying and in a distressed state.

He claimed his name was Mark and his mother had been in a car accident and was in a bad way in hospital.

He asked his victim for £35 to get the train up to London to see her and, when she told him she had no money, he asked her to use a cashpoint.

His victim refused but as Bateman continued crying, she relented and

took him back to her home to give him £25 cash. Bateman then stated this was not enough and asked for a further £10, but when the woman went to get the money out for him, changed his mind and said he would need another £20 or £30.

His bewildered victim tried to use a nearby shop to get cash back but, due to a system error, was unable to complete the transaction.

Bateman said: “I was all happy because I thought you was going to get the money and now I’m all sad again.”

Just before the victim walked off, she saw Bateman approach another person.

And that was just one of a number of similar incidents before police arrested him on February 28.

PC Michelle Rose said: “Bateman expertly played to his audience by tugging on the heartstrings of kind passers-by who did not want to leave him in distress. He betrayed their trust, leaving them upset and feeling foolish when they realised they’d fallen for a trick.”

Family face up to fears son may have drowned in river

THE family of a missing 25-year-old man say they are giving up hope they will ever see him alive.

A major police hunt for Kieron Knowlden, from Tonbridge, has been under way since March 1. He went missing after a night out.

CCTV footage – shown to the family – shows him staggering close to the river bank. He was not caught on the next CCTV camera prompting fears he may have

fallen in and drowned.

As of Friday, police continued to check waterways around Tonbridge. Earlier in the week divers continued to search the River Medway.

His mother, Donna Burchell, said: “Nothing can be confirmed until they find him, but it would seem he has fallen in. We are all totally devastated and finding it hard we may never see him again.”

Diamonds stolen in raid on OAP's home in pretty village

CROOKS have stolen a safe containing thousands of pounds worth of loose diamonds from the village home of an elderly woman.

The victim had been away from her home in Stelling Minnis, between Folkestone and Canterbury, for two weeks when she returned to find intruders had entered her home. It is unclear how they gained entry.

Among the items reported stolen was a distinctive brooch in the shape of a dragonfly and two loose diamonds.

Det Con Vanessa Law said: “These two diamonds are quite specialist and the thieves may attempt to sell them on through brokers or auction houses. If someone is offered them for sale and the offenders are nearby, please call the police.”



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PCC offers up £100,000 to community groups

COMMUNITY projects are being given the chance to bid for a share of a £100,000 fund put forward by Kent Police and Crime Commissioner Ann Barnes.

The 'Commissioner's Fund' will give away the cash over the course of the next financial year.

It aims to support the hundreds of unique, community-led projects that can make a real difference to safety and crime prevention in our towns and villages.

Voluntary organisations and not for profit groups will be able to apply for grants up to £2,000 that demonstrate a positive impact on a community.

Applications, which opened this week, must meet one or more of the following criteria: Prevent and reduce re-offending; support victims of crime; or empower local communities to work together to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour.



PURR-FECT: Chartwell has a new cat

Rocksalt is top restaurant at Taste of Kent awards

By Chris Britcher

chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

FOLKESTONE restaurant Rocksalt was named Restaurant of the Year at the annual Taste of Kent Awards on Thursday night.

At a black tie event at the Kent County Showground at Detling, local food and drink champions Produced in Kent unveiled their list of winners.

Stephanie Durling of Produced in Kent said: "We were delighted nearly 500 local businesses across the county were nominated for the awards. The battle for first place amongst the finalists has hard, with a really tough decision for our judges.

"The standard of products, produce, shops, pubs and restaurants is very high and Kent is firmly becoming established as a foody destination in the UK."

The winners were selected by a panel of judges from three finalists, who were shortlisted for each award category. The original shortlist was determined by public nominations.

Among the winners were:

Best Kent Juice Producer – Little Stour Orchard, Margate; Best Kentish Beer – Genesis Goody Ales, Herne;



Best Kentish Cider or Perry – Duddas Tun Cider, Pine Trees Farm, Dodington; Best Kentish Wine – Ortega 2012, Biddenden Vineyards; Kent Artisan Food Producer of the Year – Kent Fine Foods, Gillingham; Kent Butcher or Meat Producer of the Year – Court Farm Butchery & Country Larder, Halling; Kent Dining Pub of the Year – The Ferry House Inn, Sheppey; Kent Farmers Market of the Year – Cliftonville; Kent Fishmonger of the Year – Mobile Fresh Fish & Farm Shop; Kent Local Food Retailer of the Year – Macknade Fine Foods,

Faversham; Kent Restaurant of the Year – Rocksalt, Folkestone; Best Kent Food Product – 10 ACRE apple cider vinegar.

Produced in Kent is a membership organisation dedicated to championing local food, drink, products and services.

Its board comprises representatives of Kent County Council, Hadlow College and its own membership.

For a full list of all the winners from the awards, plus all the latest news from the county, see our website – www.kentnews.co.uk.

Cat keeps final Churchill wish for Chartwell

A MARMALADE cat has taken up residency at the former home of Sir Winston Churchill – as requested in the will of the great man himself.

On leaving their home at Chartwell, near Westerham, to the National Trust in 1966, the Churchill family requested that there would always be a marmalade cat named Jock, with a white bib and four white socks living in the house.

The property has always honoured this request and this month welcomed Jock VI, a seven-month-old rescue kitten, to take up the role.

Jock I was Churchill's own beloved cat – an 88th birthday present in November 1962 and came from the RSPCA.

The cat was named Jock after one of Churchill's private secretaries, Sir John 'Jock' Colville.

A spokesman said: "Jock VI is settling into his residency like a cat that's got the cream."

The original Jock meant so much to Churchill that he attended many meetings with him and, rumour has it, that meals in the Churchill household did not commence until Jock was present at the table. The cat was only two when Churchill died in 1965, but lived on until 1974 at Chartwell and is now buried in the property's pet cemetery.

Top comic confirms tiny seaside warm-up

COMEDIAN Lee Evans is more at home to stepping on stage in front of thousands of adoring fans – or millions on TV.

But in May he will be performing in front of just a few hundred people at Margate's Theatre Royal as part of a series of warm-up shows ahead of his Monsters nationwide tour. It is a tour which includes six sell-out shows at the O2 Arena in Greenwich.

Such is the expected demand for tickets for the one-off 'work in progress' show on May 18, they will be selected by ballot from those registering in advance on the theatre's website. Tickets for the show cost £25.

Pam Hardiman, Theatre Royal's programme manager, said: "We are thrilled – this is a big deal for Thanet."

To clampdown on ticket touts, all tickets must be collected at the box office with buyers requiring to show ID to gain entry. Registration for the ticket ballot closes March 21.

Just when will rail line once again be open?

RAIL chiefs admit they don't yet know when the Tonbridge to Hastings line will fully re-open after a series of landslides blocked the busy route.

It had been hoped the line would be ready earlier this month, but within hours of commuters expecting to use the line again, Network Rail – which administers rail infrastructure – declared it out of use.

The route takes in Tunbridge Wells and High Brooms and is a busy commuter route into London.

In a statement, Network Rail said: "Further movement of the landslide has undermined the repair work already completed and means that additional strengthening work is now needed before trains can run."

"This area is still not safe and engineers are investigating the causes of the continued ground movement. Until the results are known we can't predict the work required or how soon the line will re-open."

Town pays tribute to its former leader

JOHN Spare, the former leader and mayor of Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, has died. He was 88.

The Conservative politician was a well-known figure in the town and is credited with the creation of the North Farm Industrial Estate and the Royal Victoria Place shopping complex.

First elected to the council in 1953, he served 12 years as leader between 1980 and 1992.

But to many generations he was best known as a teacher. He served for 33 years at St John's Primary School and saw thousands of youngsters pass through the school.

He made an OBE for his work in the community in 1994 – receiving the honour from Prince Charles at a ceremony taking at Buckingham Palace.

Mr Spare died at the Hospice in the Weald. He had been admitted after suffering a fall at his home in Langton Green a week before.

He leaves behind wife Pam and two sons.

agenda

What will make next week's headlines...

Golden girl's open-top victory journey home

WINTER Olympics star Lizzy Yarnold will be given a hero's welcome when she returns to her home town on Friday, with an open-top bus ride.

Hundreds are set to line the route to catch a glimpse of the gold-medal winning skeleton star when she returns to West Kingsdown. Starting at 10.45am from the

Sevenoaks District Council offices, it then calls at a number of schools, as well as shopping centre Blighs Meadow, as it travels through Otford, Eynsford, Brands Hatch and eventually West Kingsdown when it call into the local primary school just after 2.30pm.

Team GB's only gold winner at the Sochi 2014 Games in Russia



has become a national star since sealing her success last month.

Her father was this week on hand to welcome into service a special gold bus unveiled by Arriva to mark her success on the ice.

Attempt to visit all 179 of Southeastern's stations

MOST commuters can't bear the thought of making one journey, but this week someone will attempt to visit all 179 stations on Southeastern's rail network to set a new record time.

Adam Fisher is no stranger to such endeavours - he has completed similar challenges on the London Underground, New York subway system and other

rail networks around the world.

His bid will begin on Monday and hopes it will take less than two days. It will take in all mainline services around Kent and East Sussex and the metro route around London, in addition to the high-speed route to St Pancras.

See page 12 for more news on Southeastern.

...also

Proms tickets on sale

TICKETS go on sale on Monday for the grand finale of Rochester's hugely popular Castle Concerts series.

The Proms will round off a string of shows on July 19.

A reformed UB40 will play the night before, with tickets already sold out.

Charity shop set to open

CHILDREN's hospice chYps opens a new charity shop in Camden Road, Tunbridge Wells, on Thursday.

The charity provides end-of-life, cancer and respite care to seriously ill babies, children and young people in their own homes across Kent.

Vote for Monopoly town

VOTING closes on Monday night to nominate a Kent town to appear as a future version of classic board game Monopoly.

One of Tunbridge Wells, Maidstone, Rochester, Canterbury, Ramsgate or Dover will be selected by public vote. Email your choice to kent@winningmoves.co.uk.

Birthday for Bluewater

BLUEWATER will be spending the week celebrating its 15th birthday.

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A FARMER and representative of the National Farmers' Union has called for a more rational debate over live animal exports, just days after the controversial trade resumed from Ramsgate.

Frank Langrish, who rears sheep and cattle in Rye, just over the county border in East Sussex, insists that a lot of animals spend many hours in lorries travelling across the UK to and from the major cattle markets yet campaigners only get worked up about the live export trade to the Continent.

Two lorries carrying live sheep boarded the MV Joline ferry, owned by Dutch company Barco de Vapor, at about 10am on Monday as some 50 demonstrators descended on the port to vent their anger.

Exports have been taking place from Dover since May last year, but with the berth used out of action – for maintenance – the operator returned to Thanet.

It is not known how long exports will continue from Ramsgate or how often they will run. Forty-six vehicles carried animals to the Continent between May 1 and September 5 last year through Dover.

The move comes less than two weeks after the High Court ruled that Thanet council had acted unlawfully in banning live exports from the port in 2012, following the death of more than 40 sheep.

Despite the anger, NFU spokesman Frank Langrish, 61, a sheep and cattle farmer, said he could not understand why live exports were more objectionable than any other method of transporting animals.

"Thousands of animals cross from Ireland every week. It is no different from that," he said.

"Every day in the UK you have probably got half a million animals and birds moving.

"Sheep are taken across this country for slaughter, which could involve up to a seven-hour drive.

"Most sheep from Ashford market will go to Wales or northern England to be slaughtered because there aren't the facilities down here. So why don't people protest outside the market?"

He denied that the journeys were distressing for animals.

He said: "Anything that crosses the national boundary has to be inspected by a vet 24 hours before the animals travel, and then the loading itself is supervised by animal-health inspectors. Some of the trucks will be inspected again at the port.

"What happened in 2012 was one issue among thousands. Most farmers take good care of their animals – you are dealing with something that is valuable.

"Sheep are desert animals. They only drink water occasionally and



IN A STORM: The MV Joline, owned by the Dutch company Barco de Vapor, carried two sheep lorries on Monday

Sheep farmer calls for open debate on live animal exports

they are ruminants who go long periods without food.

"The abattoirs in Europe are often of a far higher standard than ours, and few of the animals are slaughtered straight away. Some of them are store sheep, which means they go over to be fattened.

"People see this as a crusade to try to protect the animals, just because

“ People see this as a crusade to protect the animals, just because they are going on a nice little boat ride. There is an awful lot of rubbish talked... ”

Frank Langrish,
Sheep and cattle farmer



BAN:
Making his view clear on exports

they are going on a nice little boat ride. It's such an emotive subject, but there is an awful lot of rubbish talked and very few accurate statements."

One of the most high-profile campaigners fighting the trade in Kent has been Ian Driver, Green Party councillor and prospective parliamentary candidate for Thanet South. He called the trade "barbaric" and "medieval in its concept".

Speaking as exports resumed this week, he said: "It's unnecessary. Surely the animals could be slaughtered here without having to put up with that dreadful journey.

"The animals are in awful, overcrowded conditions. It is hard for them to get water or food – they are cold in the winter and in the searing heat in the summer.

"We have got to get the European Union to change its laws. This can't carry on.

"I have nothing against farming

and farmers, but the industry does have a side people need to be made aware of."

Ian Burchill is chairman of Kent Action Against Live Exports, a voluntary organisation that campaigns against live exports from Dover, Ramsgate and Ipswich.

The organisation monitors when live exports are to take place and lets its members know so they can protest.

"The government inspectors have to check just 30 per cent of lorries at the port. That is too hit and miss for live animals," Mr Burchill said.

Mr Burchill and his wife Yvonne helped found the organisation 19 years ago after they moved from Yorkshire to Kent.

"We were surprised that it happened and that the animals were treated so abysmally," he said.

"These animals are no different from cats or dogs, or other ordinary domestic pets. They have feelings, they experience fear, trust and love, and we should respect that in them."

However, Phil Stocker, chief executive of the National Sheep Association, said the exports were necessary.

"We are exporting far fewer live animals than 10 years ago, but it is still an important part of the market and a legitimate trade," he said.

"Farmers can get a higher price abroad because it is cheaper if the animals are slaughtered over there. Some of the animals are going to provide halal meat. Others can be given a higher value because they can say that the animals are the produce of the country they are slaughtered in."

Despite this, Mr Stocker said it would be better for the UK if there were no live exports.

"It would contribute more to the economy in this country and probably would be beneficial for animal welfare as the shorter the journey the animals make the better," he said.

"For some farmers, taking sheep across the Channel is a shorter journey than going to other parts of the UK. I also am in favour of full, honest labelling across the EU so people can understand what they're buying."

While most sheep go to Belgium, Holland and northern France, Mr Driver and Mr Burchill said some had been traced as far afield as Turkey.

Mr Stocker conceded that enforcement of regulations across the Continent was sometimes a problem but pointed out that the UK's continued involvement in the trade allowed it to push for greater rigour.

"There is nothing wrong with the laws, but there are questions about their implementation in some member states."

He said: "We all want the same thing: the highest possible welfare for animals."

Council to appeal against High Court's ruling that export ban was 'unlawful'

THANET council has said it will appeal the High Court ruling, which could leave it liable for up to £1.5 million in compensation.

The council said it had suspended live exports from Ramsgate for two months in 2012

“to protect the welfare of animals and to protect our staff”.

The ban was precipitated by a disaster in September that year, when a lorry carrying 548 sheep was stopped by inspectors and deemed unfit to cross the Channel.

A total of 43 were put down or shot because a vet found them to be severely lame. A loading-area floor then collapsed as the sheep were being taken off the lorry, and six fell into the water.

Four were rescued by RSPCA

inspectors, but two were drowned.

Thomas Lomas, owner of Channel Livestock, which exports live animals, was given a suspended six-month jail sentence at Dover Magistrates' Court last month.

He had been charged with

causing sheep to be transported in a way likely to cause injury and suffering, and failing to ensure the animals were transported safely.

Lomas was also ordered to pay a £5,000 fine and the company was instructed to pay £14,000 costs.

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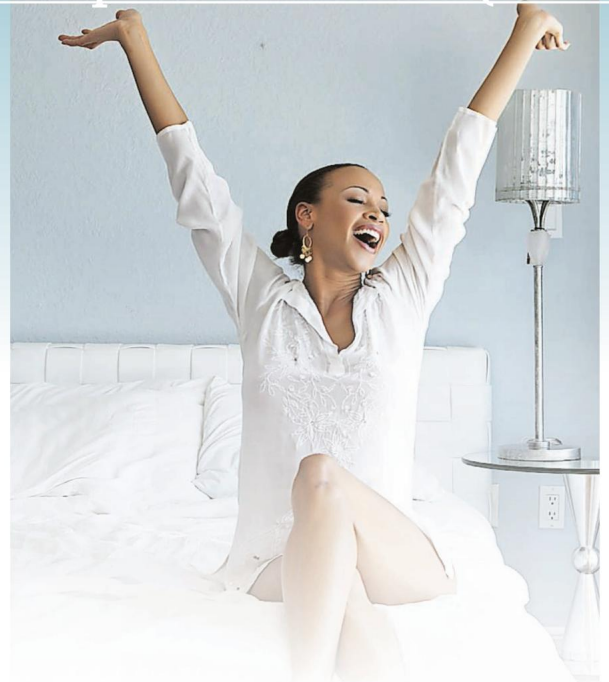
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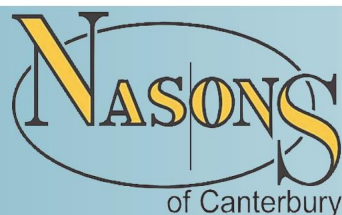
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Nature groups' stark warning over fracking water pollution

To prevent poorly-regulated extraction of shale gas poisoning underground supplies, six influential organisations have produced a set of 10 rules to prevent contamination, reports **Chris Murphy**

A GROUP of high-profile countryside organisations has warned about the potential dangers to our environment of fracking – the contentious method of removing shale gas from the ground.

A combined statement from the Angling Trust, the National Trust, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, the Salmon and Trout Association, The Wildlife Trusts and the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust says underground water supplies could be affected by the process.

It says allowing poorly-regulated fracking in protected countryside and national parks could cause water pollution and harm wildlife.

Kent already has several locations licensed for oil and gas drilling.

Cowden, near Tunbridge Wells, has already seen test drilling taking place, in 2010, by energy company Cuadrilla, the firm behind the drilling at Blackpool believed to have been responsible for two minor earthquakes, events that forced the Government to put a temporary ban on the extraction method.

The site in Cowden and another in Woodnesborough, near Sandwich, are already licensed for exploration for oil and gas reserves.

In the Dover and Deal area, planning applications for exploratory borehole drilling to search for methane at Shepherdswell, Guston and Tilmanstone were submitted by Coastal Oil and Gas Limited.

Overwhelming opposition from local people meant they were withdrawn, but they could return.

Now the countryside groups have drawn up a 'top 10' of rules to avoid contamination of the water table as part of their Are We Fit to Frack? report.

It contains recommendations for making fracking safer as the Government continues its push to get companies to apply for licences to explore and drill for shale gas.

RSPB South East conservation officer Alison Giacomelli said: "We would back extraction exclusion zones covering the Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Special Sites of Scientific Interest (SSSIs) and the National Parks such as the South Downs.

"The effects of fracking in sensitive areas on wildlife and the risks of water pollution are such that we would recommend those areas are avoided altogether for exploration."

Chemicals used in the exploration process could cause pollution of ground and surface water, which would affect wildlife and drinking-water quality, they say.

Fracking companies such as Cuadrilla have long denied any major dangers from the process.



EMOTIVE ISSUE: A fracking site in America's New York State and protest signs made by residents protesting at the Cuadrilla drill site in West Sussex

FRACKING: WHAT IS IT AND WHAT ARE THE DANGERS?



DEBATE: Cheaper fuel prices but at what cost to our environment?

FRACKING is the process of extracting natural shale gas by blasting water and rock-dissolving fluids into the ground to break apart rocks and release the gas.

It is banned in South Africa and France but has taken off in the US.

So far only exploratory work has taken place in this country, but fears are that it could lead to fracking.

The Government says it should be encouraged and will lead to less reliance on unstable countries and ultimately cheaper energy bills.

However, opponents say that fracking increases greenhouse-gas emissions, contaminates water supplies and can cause earthquakes.

Questions have also been raised in Kent about whether we have enough water to cater for a fracking revolution.

Water is crucial in fracking, but Kent is already deemed a "water-stressed" county and had an official drought in 2012.

Companies such as Cuadrilla, which has a licence to carry out exploratory drilling in Kent, says its wells are designed with stringent safety measures and have been examined independently by the Health and Safety Executive.

Earlier this year, in an effort to offer an incentive to local councils, the Government revealed that rather than handing over 50 per cent of business rates collected from fracking projects to central coffers, the local authority could keep the lot.

It was seen as a tantalising carrot for many councils facing financial strain after cuts to their budgets.

So, are there any alternatives?

EARLIER this year we spoke to a geological consultant who outlined an alternative to traditional fracking that could go a long way to easing concerns – and that was switching drilling from land to sea.

Dr Alasdair Bruce, who is also a Thanet district councillor, told KoS that taking the controversial method out to sea could ease public resistance and reduce the associated risks.

But he admitted that cost restrictions would be the fly in the ointment, with offshore drilling more expensive than onshore.

"It may be cost-prohibitive, but it's certainly worth looking at," he told us back in January.

Dr Bruce, who runs consultancy firm RockDoc Ltd, said money for incentives should not form any part of the debate (see 'what is fracking' box).

"If it's a good thing, then incentives aren't needed. The only reason they're looking at fracking at the moment is because fuel and gas costs.

"Were we awash with cheap gas from the North Sea we wouldn't even be looking at this process, so it's all cost-driven."

THE 10 RULES FROM 'ARE WE FIT TO FRACK?' REPORT

The recommendations contained in the report are:

- 1 Avoid sensitive areas for wildlife and water resources by creating shale-gas extraction exclusion zones.
- 2 Make Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) mandatory for shale-gas extraction proposals.
- 3 Require shale-extraction companies to pay for a world-class regulatory regime.

- 4 Prevent taxpayers from bearing the costs of accidental pollution.
- 5 Make water companies statutory consultees in the planning process.
- 6 Require all hydraulic fracturing operations to operate under a groundwater permit.
- 7 Make sure the best available techniques (BAT) for mine

- waste management are rigorously defined and regularly reviewed.
- 8 Ensure full transparency of the shale-gas industry and its environmental impact.
- 9 Ensure monitoring and testing of shale-gas operations are rigorous and independent.
- 10 The minimising and regular monitoring of methane emissions.

Rail firm eyes coastal loop for its high-speed train services

By Chris Murphy

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

COMMUTERS could get an even swifter route to London after plans were revealed to introduce changes to the high-speed rail route.

After proving such a hit with travellers, Southeastern is now examining an option for a major circular route of the county.

This would mean, for the first time, high-speed trains stopping at the likes of Birchington-on-Sea, Martin Mill and Walmer.

In addition, there will be an increase in the number of seats to ease mounting concerns the fast service is becoming a victim of its own success.

The company said the plans to extend its high-speed services would provide more capacity and serve more stations on a new coastal loop.

The headline benefits are:

- 698 additional seats from Ashford International in the morning peak.
- 349 additional seats from Ebbsfleet International in the morning peak.
- two additional services from Margate and Broadstairs, creating a half-hourly service.

- one additional service from Margate and Canterbury West at the start of the off-peak.
- an off-peak high-speed service from Deal, Sandwich, Martin Mill and Walmer all day as part of a circular service connecting Faversham, Ramsgate and Dover Priory.

A spokesman said: "This gives faster journey times to London, direct services via Faversham and Dover to London and gives Birchington-on-Sea, Herne Bay and Whitstable an all-day high-speed service.

"Also direct services between Maidstone East and Canterbury West will be speeded up, and there will be a wider choice of London terminal destinations from east Kent stations by offering a circular high-speed service to St Pancras International."

Southeastern also promised a reduction in the splitting and joining of services at Ashford and Faversham.

The spokesman said: "As fewer trains will split and we'll be running full 12-car trains around the loop instead of splitting them into two six-car trains heading for separate destinations, journey times will not be extended by the additional station stops. We will gain the time it takes to couple and separate trains at Ashford and Faversham.

"These proposals would see high-speed trains stopping at Walmer, Martin Mill and Birchington-on-Sea for the first time and will guarantee the high-speed link to Deal until at least 2018."

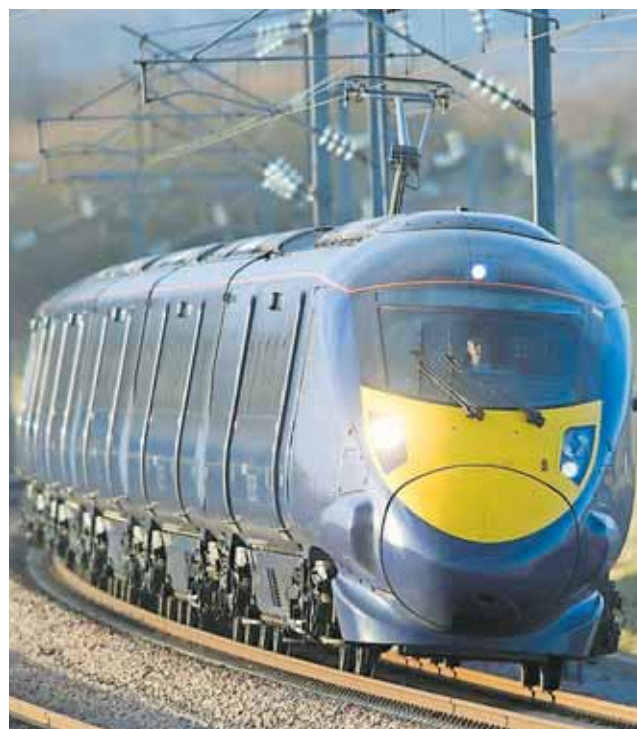
A sharp growth in passenger numbers has boosted the urgency of the proposal, which is already being considered by the Department for Transport. It is likely to make a decision in the not too distant future.

The company said the plans were in response to a significant growth in passenger numbers to and from all of those stations now compared with the year before the high-speed service was introduced.

“ It means direct services via Faversham and Dover to London and gives Birchington-on-Sea, Herne Bay and Whitstable an all-day high-speed service ”

Southeastern,

On the proposed coastal loop



SERVICE: Will a new route bring improvements for coastal passengers?

It has also seen an increase of 25 per cent in the number of passengers visiting Kent from London and further afield.

Richard Dean, train services director for Southeastern, said: "Our proposals for enhancing the high-speed service are in response to increasing demand and rising passenger numbers.

"We've seen an increase of 60 to 70 per cent in the number of people travelling to and from key stations including Ashford, Ebbsfleet, Canterbury and Dover since we introduced the high-speed trains in 2009 and we expect this growth to continue.

"These proposals provide new journey opportunities for our passengers, including an all-day off-peak high-speed service for the Kent coast and new direct services between Maidstone East and Canterbury West. They offer greater choice, more seats

and more frequent services for rail-users in Kent."

Linda McCord, of rail watchdog Passenger Focus, said: "These proposals are good news for passengers travelling to and from Dover, Canterbury, Ashford and Ebbsfleet.

"Southeastern are trying to address some of the capacity issues that have arisen and we welcome this proactive approach."

However, the proposals brought little good cheer for those in the west of the county.

Bob Barker, the chairman of the Tunbridge Wells and District Rail Travellers' Association, told us: "I don't see this new line having any impact on this side of the county at all although I would always welcome anything that may eventually relieve congestion on our line."

If the Department for Transport gives the go-ahead, it is expected that the new line and services will run by December.

Nature groups unite in fears over fracking water pollution

« PAGE 11

legally protected because of their special landscape and wildlife, so it is contradictory to allow fracking, which potentially affects the countryside and the important species living there."

The report is based on a document called Hydraulic Fracturing for Shale Gas in the UK: Examining the Evidence for Potential Environmental Impacts – written by the groups and peer-reviewed by the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology.

The countryside groups want protection for all wildlife areas, nature reserves and national parks, and that requires them to be frack-free zones.

It also wants full environmental assessments to be carried out for each drilling proposal, and for the shale in-

dustry to pay the costs of its regulation and any pollution clean-ups.

It claims there is a lack of regulation around shale-gas exploitation, which could cause serious impacts for a range of threatened species, including pink-footed geese, salmon and barbastelle bats.

It also raises serious concerns about the impact of drilling and water contamination on some of the country's most precious natural habitats such as chalk streams.

Martin Harper, RSPB conservation director, said: "The Prime Minister has been a great advocate for the shale-gas industry. He's said we've the strongest environmental controls and nothing will go ahead if there are environmental dangers.

"Our report puts a spotlight on these risks and reinforces the grow-

ing concern about the impact fracking could have on our countryside and wildlife. We argue that more needs to be done to ensure fracking rules are fit for purpose."

Speaking to KoS last year, David Cameron said the nation should be prepared for fracking as a solution to a reliance on traditional gas sources.

But Simon Pryor, National Trust natural environment director, said: "The debate on fracking needs to be evidence-based. The evidence from this research clearly reveals that the regulation of shale gas needs to be improved if it's to offer adequate protection for sensitive environments.

"Whilst the Government is keen to see rapid roll-out of fracking, there's a real danger that the regulatory system simply isn't keeping pace. The Government should rule out fracking

in the most sensitive areas and ensure that the regulations offer sufficient protection to our treasured natural and historic environment."

Paul Wilkinson is head of living landscape for The Wildlife Trusts – which includes Kent Wildlife Trust.

He said: "The Government's dash for shale gas must not run ahead of our ability to effectively regulate, minimise or eliminate the serious risks fracking poses.

"This report clearly identifies a range of deficiencies which mean we're not currently fit to frack without unacceptable risks to wildlife, special places and local communities across the country."

Protest group East Kent Against Fracking recently held a public meeting in Barham attended by more than 100 people.

The group says it is concerned the process will turn "our green and pleasant land" into an "uninhabitable toxic wasteland for our children and grandchildren."

The United Kingdom Onshore Operators' Group speaks for fracking companies in the UK. It says that the dangers of fracking are consistently overblown, while the economic benefits are massive.

The organisation said: "In the UK today, there are 120 sites with 250 operating wells producing between 20,000 and 25,000 barrels of oil equivalent a day."

■ **Join the debate and share your views. Write to The Editor, KoS, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smethth, Ashford TN25 6SS, or you can email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk.**



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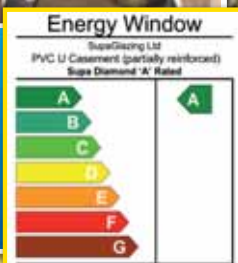
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**SOME GIRL I USED TO
KNOW:** She co-wrote it
and stars in it. The musical
play is coming to Dartford.

'All-rounder' Denise on her new play and life in county

From TV and musicals, to fashion and dancing, Denise van Outen can do it all, now she's the star of her own show, **Dave Mairs** finds out more

OVER the years the talents of Denise van Outen have been spread far and wide.

Known to most as a TV presenter and performer, albeit with a brash, even bawdy style, she has enjoyed remarkable success treading the boards too.

And that's not all...

Aside from television – perhaps most famously when she burst on to our Channel 4 screens in 1997 with Johnny Vaughan to revive *The Big Breakfast*, the irreverent show that had changed the morning viewing habits of up to two million people at its peak but whose ratings had fallen badly – there has been a broad range of turns in musical theatre and radio, as well as stints as both author and fashion designer.

She also shone in *Strictly Come Dancing*, when in December 2012 she and professional partner James Jordan took the runners-up spot behind Olympic gymnast Louis Smith and Flavia Cacace.

Now Ms van Outen, who hits 40 this year and lives in Kent (she's keen not to reveal precisely where but let's just say somewhere in the Weald), is tackling something altogether different.

She will be starring in the one-woman show *Some Girl I Used To Know* that she co-wrote with Terry Ronald, another multi-faceted individual, described elsewhere as "songwriter, vocalist, producer and the award-winning author of the novel *Becoming Nancy*".

If having the metaphorical balls to take on the challenge of being the only character in a stage production is not new to Ms van Outen – more than a decade ago she proved her worth at London's Gielgud Theatre in the Andrew Lloyd Webber musical *Tell Me On A Sunday* – the role of playwright certainly is.

Some Girl I Used To Know, which plays at The Orchard Theatre in Dartford this week, tells the story of Stephanie Canworth, a successful operator in the world of lingerie design whose

all too comfortable life is jolted from its largely predictable course when a former boyfriend and all-round naughty boy gives her a 'poke' on Facebook.

Which way is Stephanie to turn? Cosy, caring, conventional hubby or that still-tempting first love?

It sounds like stuff for the girls, but Ms van Outen – for obvious reasons, the cynic might suggest – dispels the idea that this is little more than a chick-flick brought into the theatre.

"It's for all of us," she said. "Yes, it's a girls' night out, but men can enjoy it, too."

"There are a lot of moments in the story that are very relatable to every man and to every woman. There's temptation, love... all the things that most people experience at some time in their lives."

Songwriter and producer Steve Anderson – he's written for Kylie Minogue, Britney Spears, Westlife and Atomic Kitten – was musical supervisor for the show and worked with Ms van Outen on what is effectively its play list. Tracks by Kim Wilde, The Thompson Twins, Sonia, Culture Club and Soft Cell, for example, are all given the van Outen treatment.

"It's a musical play," she said. "It's a Shirley Valentine for my generation. Shirley Valentine was brilliant and my mum and my auntie and all their friends loved it, but it's a little bit dated now."

Even Ms van Outen's harshest critics would have to concede that it takes some strength of personality and no little courage to embrace so many challenges, from conception to execution, in one production.

"I can do all of it," she said. "I'm an all-rounder – I do a bit of everything. Being in musicals in the West End gave me the confidence to do a lot of it."

Despite her admission that she was "petrified of being on the stage on my own" when she set out all those years ago with *Tell Me On A Sunday*, her boldness is surely no more than we have come to expect from a woman who has seemingly backed away from few, if any, opportunities to arise in her expansive career.

Her apparent confidence is so strong that she could perhaps come across as a little intimidating to those more used to their women being a tad more, how shall we put it, demure.

Asked, in all innocence, if she might be a bit of a man-eater – a reference more to her being an impressively imposing character to some members of the supposedly stronger sex rather than her being some sort of Dorian Green-type sexual



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Denise van Outen,

On co-writing her new play

predator – she responds with a hint of defensiveness: “No, I’m not a man-eater. I’ve not dated loads and loads of guys. I was with my last partner [Any Dream Will Do winner Lee Mead, with whom she has a daughter, Betsy] seven years.”

She then stops any trip down that path dead in its tracks: “Can we not talk about my relationships!”

Fair enough, but given the nature of the production and the fact that *Some Girl I Used To Know* has been reported in some quarters as being a semi-autobiographical piece, such matters are always likely to be in the mind’s eye.

Clear of such thorny matters, Ms van Outen stresses more her natural affability and obvious social charms.

“I can hold my own in the company of men,” she said. “I’m a little bit flirty, a bit mischievous.”

It was unquestionably that ‘flirty mischievousness’ which was such a big part of her success on *The Big Breakfast*, so how much does she think she’s progressed from that spell of her life, at least in the public eye?

“I never want to move away from that,” she said. “I loved it. It was the cheeky side of my personality people saw. It’s the cheeky side audiences will see again in the first act of *Some Girl I Used To Know*. In the second act, though, she is very different.

“I’m confident through the whole thing, though, singing and acting. I feel at ease with the audience as they come on the journey with me.”

We’re back with the confidence thing again and it’s easy to see Ms van Outen as the epitome of 1990s

‘girl power’ the Spice Girls’ rallying call which effectively told women to have the strength to challenge men at their own game.

Again, however, she is reluctant to adopt the mantle.

“That was more the Spice Girls. Before then, music had been heavily dominated by male bands. There was a new feistiness among women, but I don’t know if I fell into that bracket.”

What is more apparent is her regard for the station that hosted *The Big Breakfast* and that launched her career into the genuine big time.

“We were given the freedom by Channel 4 to speak our minds.

“It opened lots of doors for me and I’ll always be grateful I had that opportunity – I’m particularly grateful to the producer, Charlie Parsons, who also lives in Kent.”

Which brings us nicely to Ms van Outen and her move across the Thames (she was born in Basildon) from Essex. How did it come about?

“My grandmother used to go hopping [hop-picking] in Kent, as did my mum. They were always telling stories

“I close the door on the world when I’m here [in Kent]. I’ve got a really lovely vegetable garden and then there’s my Aga. I love the country life...”

Denise van Outen,
on living in the county

about it. Then, about six years ago, I was doing a TV commercial around Lenham, shooting scenes in an orchard, and fell in love with the area. We were there for five days in perfect weather and I started to look around.

“After that, I became a mum. The schools are good here and I love it – it’s perfect.”

Although keeping a flat in London, Ms van Outen spends much of her time in Kent, where three-year-old Betsy goes to pre-school.

“I close the door on the world when I’m here. I’ve got a really lovely vegetable garden and then there’s my Aga. I love the country life and when I get home I can really relax.”

So, Essex or Kent? What best defines today’s Denise van Outen?

“I’m an Essex girl at heart,” she said. “It’s where I was born and grew up, but as a grown woman it’s Kent.”

Dartford, then, where the two counties almost collide, would seem to be the ideal place for this hugely gifted performer to complete the run of her one-woman show.

“Definitely. I’ll be able to go home afterwards for the last three days of the tour. The great thing is that I’ll be on my home patch and have loads of friends and family in the audience.”

Always leave them wanting more, they say... The Orchard will be rocking.

■ *Some Girl I Used To Know* plays at The Orchard Theatre, Dartford, from Monday to Wednesday, March 17-19, at 7.30pm. Tickets are priced from £20 to £25 and there is £1.50 per-ticket booking fee. There are discounts for concessions, groups and Premiere Card members.

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CONFIDENT: Actress, singer, writer, dancer, designer... Denise is on a roll



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Profile



Evacuee recalls waiting to be 'chosen' at theatre during war

IN 1939, a popular theatre turned from being the home of songs, dance and laughter to a defining moment in the lives of numerous young children.

Because as the doors of the Assembly Hall Theatre in Tunbridge Wells swung open and a host of adults filed in, they were there for one purpose only – to select children to come and stay with them.

This was wartime. And this was the plight of the evacuee children.

On one particular day, eyes swept the room yet none settled on the young boy and his two sisters seated in the bottom right-hand corner near the stage.

John Baughan, just nine years old, and his sisters Emmie and Evie, 13 and 11, instead watched on as, over the course of the day, the room emptied and they were the last ones left.

They, like many other children, had been taken from their family in London and evacuated to a place deemed safer, outside of the capital.

Clutching gas marks and small cases full of clothes, they waved goodbye to their parents in Catford, boarded a train at Lewisham and arrived at Tunbridge Wells West where they

As the Assembly Hall Theatre in Tunbridge Wells celebrates its 75th anniversary, **Marijke Cox** uncovers one remarkable wartime tale from its long and very distinguished past...

were ushered into a fleet of waiting taxis and taken to the Assembly Hall.

The venue itself had only recently opened. In May 2014, it marks its 75th anniversary.

It may not have been all that far from their home, but in an era of no mobile phones or email, and with London and the south east facing the threat of bombing raids, it felt like a million miles for the children involved.

"We were walked down in a large crocodile line from Blackheath to Lewisham station. We had no idea where we were going," said John Baughan, now 84.

"We said goodbye to our mother, she had no clue where we were going or if she'd ever see us again.

"These days people wouldn't stand for it, but you did back then."

In what now, looking back, seems like a cruel process, the children had

to sit waiting to be picked by host families.

"It was a bit like a cattle market – people were coming in and picking the children they wanted," said Mr Baughan.

"There was Emmie, Evie and myself and nobody fancied three children, particularly a boy, and Emmie was going through the gawky stage.

"It got to eight o'clock and there were just three children left and that was us. I remember thinking 'we can go back home now'."

But, of course, that wasn't to be.

Hungry, tired and feeling somewhat rejected, the door opened and in walked Mrs Collins, the woman who would be their first foster parent.

"She agreed to take us on and took us to her small flat in Hurstwood Lane in Tunbridge Wells to live with herself, her husband and their daughter," said Mr Baughan.

"She took pity on us because she and her husband had been brought up in orphanages and they didn't want other children to go through the same experience.

"It wasn't too bad. She looked after us well, within her limitations.

"People who looked after the evacuees would get a weekly allowance. Every day at noon we would go along to the Assembly Hall where there was a British food restaurant and we would get a meal for four pence, in old money that is."

Mr Baughan admitted that despite being so young he took it all in his stride, not least because he had found a little place of heaven in his new home town in the form of the Wellington Rocks – a natural formation on the town's Common which has enthralled generations before and since.

"We used to play there all day because nobody thought about sending

us to school for about two or three months," remembers Mr Baughan. "It was heaven."

But the decision was soon made by authorities that evacuees should be going to school and, in a town now swamped with children, they would attend in the morning and local Tunbridge Wells youngsters in the afternoon.

"After school we'd be left to our own devices and it was straight back to the rocks," he said.

"They didn't teach us anything at school anyway, it was to get us off the streets. Evacuees were treated with a bit of curiosity.

"The only thing I ever learnt at school there was the song 'My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean'."

But while he was happily whiling away the afternoons in pretty Tunbridge Wells, his mother had other ideas.

"She came down to see us and asked how I was getting on at school. I said 'alright', she said 'what do you mean?', I said 'well, I don't go' – she wasn't very happy about that.

"We went home for Christmas because nothing much was happening with the war at that point, and my mother told me it would be better if I went to where my old school in London was evacuated to, in Otford.

"She thought at least I'd be getting some education."

But it was to lead to a lonely time for the young Mr Baughan.

Separated from his sisters, he was taken in by a childless couple who were convinced evacuees had fleas.

"As soon as I got there I was put in the bath by the woman, Mrs George, and my head scrubbed with de-licer.

"After a week she decided she'd had enough of me – I don't know why – and I was then moved across the road to another house.

"I was with that family again for another week – same procedure, head scrubbed with de-licer. And then I was moved again.

"It was probably my loneliest time.

"The next woman had three children of her own and she was very kind. But she was a bit out of her depth having another one.

"However, she had a friend call Meg Woodvine and she agreed that I could go there."

Mr Baughan becomes emotional when recalling his time with this new family.

"It still brings tears to my eyes how kind they were," he said.

"If you'd known Meg and the family you couldn't fail to be happy. If ever Christ walked this world, it was them.

"They were marvellous. They couldn't do enough for me.

"They'd had a little boy who would have been the same age as me but he

died when he was five. He died because they didn't have 10 shillings to pay the doctor to come out.

"She took me in and she then went and adopted a little girl called Mavis.

"I stayed with Meg for three years and went to Otford Primary School."

But life wasn't always easy for the young Mr Baughan with some people determined to make it hard for the evacuees.

"My headmistress hated us; she made it bloody awful for us. I know now she was a communist because every morning she'd give us a lecture about our great Russian comrades.

"So we had that in the morning and in the school holidays we used to have to do her garden for her, we didn't get paid."

Up until then, Mr Baughan and his family – with the exception of being separated from one another – had been relatively unscathed by the war which raged across the globe.

But in 1940, on a visit home to London to see his mother and father, the Blitz started.

“If you'd known Meg and the family you couldn't fail to be happy. If ever Christ walked this world, it was them. They were marvellous”

John Baughan,
Wartime evacuee



The whole family, including his grandmother who was in her 90s, huddled into an Anderson shelter – a hole in the ground with a corrugated steel roof and earth piled on top as they awaited the onslaught of the enemy aircraft.

Mr Baughan said: "It measured 6ft by 4ft and there were 10 of us in there. I can remember it was about 11 o'clock at night, there was a noise like an express train and it was a bomb. It came down and demolished the house but we all survived to tell the tale."

His family, however, had to be relocated into an empty requisitioned

house and Mr Baughan was sent back to Otford.

But aged 13, the unsettled youngster was moved yet again, this time back in with his family so he could attend Catford Central School.

"I used to walk from the school back home for my dinner. It was a mile there and a mile back. We used to have to do it in an hour," he said.

"I was walking along the road one day, looked up and saw these planes with a black cross on them flying just at rooftop level, no warning given.

"I was fascinated because a bomb came down and then I heard some-

one shout: 'Get down you bloody fool!', but I didn't have time and I was blown over a brick wall.

"The bricks all came down on top of me and a bus driver picked the bricks off and sat me on his bike and wheeled me home.

"My leg was bruised, but not too badly. I remember thinking I'd get three weeks off school for this – unfortunately mother had other ideas."

Growing up during the war was a testing time, but tragedy struck his family in an unrelated way when he was just 14.

"It was a Monday night, my father,

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MEMORIES: John Baughan remembers waiting with his two sisters at the Assembly Hall as evacuees to be chosen by a host family. The Assembly Hall Theatre in Tunbridge Wells is this year celebrating its 75th anniversary

he worked in Fleet Street, he didn't come off his usual train," he recalls.

"That was about six o'clock. They came every 20 minutes and he didn't come off the next one or the third one.

"My mother phoned his office and they said 'not to worry, he's gone for a drink' – but that's something he'd never do.

"We went back home, she was worried sick. There was a knock at the door and a policeman was stood there.

"He said 'Mrs Baughan?', she said, 'yes', he said 'I want you to go to Bromley mortuary and identify your husband'. The he turned and went."

He discovered his father had suffered a coronary thrombosis and had died on the train.

He had gone to Sevenoaks and then back to Bromley South – it was only when the train began to fill up someone noticed he was dead.

"I went with my mother but when we got to Bromley mortuary she collapsed and so I was given the task of identifying my father, at age 14.

"You grow up quick then – I grew up that night."

Now the man of the house and with his mother struggling to pay the bills, Mr Baughan, at 15, left school to find

a job. He wrote to insurance brokers Alexander Howden where one of his sisters worked, and asked if they had any jobs.

"I got a letter back saying come and meet Mr Hubble the accountant," he said.

"I met him outside a bank and he was as drunk as a newt. We got in the car and went to a large house and in the grounds there were huts that had been built for offices.

"I went in one and Hubble gave me a list of numbers to add up – the longest one I ever saw in my life.

"One thing I couldn't do was add

up. I thought, what do I do now?

"I've always had a bit of initiative in me and I looked down the office and there was this attractive young blonde girl working a comptometer.

"It was a machine you could add up, subtract, multiply and divide on. You had to be a mathematician to use it.

"I walked down the office and said 'Mr Hubble asked if you'd mind adding this up' which she did for me.

"I went back into his office and gave him the answers. He'd also given me a form to fill in and I'd spelt accounts wrong – he looks at it and says 'you might not be able to spell, Baughan, but by Christ you can add up.'"

Meeting his wife and with a permanent job under his belt, he started to feel the pull of Tunbridge Wells, the place he had spent time as an evacuee.

"I worked three jobs, we saved up and we bought a house in Hilldenborough and then went to Pembury and then we bought a house in Tunbridge Wells.

"It brings back memories. Tunbridge Wells hasn't changed a great deal. We went back there because of my time there as a boy."

Seeing the rocks, he admits, is particularly special to him.

"The war was a time of your life when things stand out. A vivid time to live in," he recalled.

For Mr Baughan, his life truly has gone full circle.

As a young boy aged just nine, with his first host family, his foster father Mr Collins would lift him over the fence of Chancellor House, off Mount Ephraim, so he could pick up fallen chestnuts. Today he lives there.

THE EVACUATION

EVACUATION took place within the first few months of the Second World War.

The then-Government made plans to remove children from 'evacuable' areas to places deemed safer. It was voluntary, but parents were urged to move their children out of areas at risk of bombing.

If below school age they would be accompanied by their mothers.

Otherwise, they would wave to their parents and head off, in most instances with no clue as to where they were going.

Only once settled with their new families would they be able to write to their parents telling them where they were.

John Baughan said: "In 1938 they thought the war was going to start and so all the children were evacuated.

"All the children had to go to the school, where it was agreed they would get evacuated from. It was like a dummy run.

"We were all geared up but then Chamberlain came with his bit of paper, waving it, saying there would be no war and so we went back home.

"Then in 1939 it all blew up again and we went through the same procedure, went to the school, but that time it didn't turn out to be a false alarm."

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10



9



8



7



6

LAST weekend's sunny weather prompted a huge outpouring of crowds to the county's top tourist hotspots – providing them with a much needed boost after a miserable winter.

But just what are the county's most popular attractions?

Here, according to figures provided by tourism champion Visit England, is the county's top 10...

10 Port Lympne Wild Animal Park (near Hythe)
166,214 visitors
ALONG with sister site Howletts, in Bokesbourne near Canterbury, they remain the county's undisputed champions when it comes to wild animals. And little wonder.

Not only do they have the perennially popular crowd-pleasers of lions, tigers, elephants and gorillas, but a whole lot more besides.

Its history is fascinating too. Its magnificent mansion and gardens were built during the First World War before being purchased by gambler John Aspinall after his animal collection at Howletts got too big.

9 Sissinghurst Castle Garden (near Tunbridge Wells)
188,225 visitors
ARGUABLY the county's most famous gardens – and one of the finest examples in England – the garden was created in the 1930s by poet and writer Vita Sackville-West and her husband Harold Nicolson.

The garden is divided into different

'rooms' with each having a particular theme or character.

In 1967 it was taken over by the National Trust which continues to maintain the gardens today.

8 Chartwell (near Westerham)
199,971 visitors
THE home of the nation's most famous son – this was where Winston Churchill sought solace during the darkest days of the Second World War and where he fought some of his own infamous inner demons.

Bought by Churchill and wife Clementine in 1922, the couple set about an extensive renovation and modernisation programme during their time at the property.

After the war ended, and Churchill was unseated as Prime Minister, the

cost of maintaining the property was too much and it was purchased by a consortium of wealthy businessmen, who allowed the Churchills to live there for a nominal rate until their deaths.

Following Churchill's death in 1965 his wife moved out, however, and instructed the house should be handed over to the National Trust immediately.

7 Rochester Cathedral
234,500 visitors
THERE are few more picturesque areas than Rochester High Street as it flows towards the majesty of the former city's castle and cathedral.

Founded in the 7th century, its Gothic majesty continues to impress the thousands of visitors

who come through its doors.

In fact, it was so popular with Charles Dickens – who used the sights and sounds of Rochester frequently in his books – he requested he be buried at the churchyard within its grounds.

His wishes were over-ruled, however, and he was buried in Poet's Corner inside Westminster Abbey.

6 Bedgebury National Pinetum (near Goudhurst)
236,352 visitors
ESTABLISHED in 1925 as the National Conifer Collection, it is now recognised as boasting the most complete collection of conifers on one site anywhere in the world.

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10 most popular attractions?

Britcher decided to find out exactly which ones have the most tourists beating a path to their doors



for visitors keen to enjoy the fresh air and take advantage of the opportunity to cycle, walk or ride around the forest.

In addition, it has the popular Go Ape attraction and is run by the Forestry Commission.

5 **Turner Contemporary (Margate)**

349,864 visitors
SINCE it opened its doors for the first time in 2011, the Turner Contemporary has been one of the county's great success stories.

It continues to attract hundreds of thousands of visitors each year, lured to a regularly revolving series of exhibitions and some of the finest views across Margate's sandy beaches.

Seen as a catalyst for regeneration in both Margate and the wider east



Kent area, it is perhaps one of the most high profile new additions to the county's tourism portfolio.

4 **Dover Castle**

355,499 visitors
THE medieval castle not only looks just like a castle ought to, but its role in defending this island through the ages stretches from its earliest 12th century incarnation to its vital role during the Second World War.

Today it is more a testament to its strategic position – overlooking the Channel and the Continent beyond.

It continues to enthral youngsters who can truly get to grips with history within its walls, while adults remain fascinated with all it has come to represent.

Today it is run by English Heritage.



3 **Lower Leas Coastal Park and Amphitheatre Country Park (Folkestone)**

500,000 visitors
AS if to underline just how treasured the seafront near Folkestone is, then the remarkable success of the Lower Leas Coastal Park is surely it.

The multi-million pound development is split into three distinct zones; a formal area full of pine avenues and flower gardens, and a wild zone full of diverse wildlife habitat.

But the big draw is the fun zone – boasting a large free adventure play area and amphitheatre.

It is as much a hit with the thousands of youngsters who play on it as the parents and grandparents, who earn kudos for taking them there in the first place.



Leeds Castle
596,025 visitors
OVER the years Leeds Castle has been everything from a retreat of kings, to a house playing host to the most glitzy of parties for some of the world's biggest stars.

Today, however, it is one of the county's foremost attractions.

More than just a castle, many come simply to enjoy the sumptuous grounds of a site which looks like it should be in the pages of a fairy tale.

Formerly owned by American heiress Lady Baillie, it passed into the hands of English Heritage in the 1970s, when it was first opened to the public.

And it's never looked back. Visitors flock not only to the grounds, but to its golf course and the many live events during the summer.



Canterbury Cathedral
1,000,000+ visitors
THE undisputed king of the county's tourism map by some distance – this historic building pulls in crowds from around the world in their droves.

Home of the Church of England and steeped in history, visitors continue to be drawn on a pilgrimage to the UNESCO World Heritage Site above and beyond all others in the county.

As a consequence, it has made Canterbury one of the county's most culturally diverse destinations.

It is not without challenges however – in particular a constant need for funding to help support an on-going restoration project.

■ Source: All figures – Visit England. Figures relate to visitor numbers in 2011 – the most recent figures available.

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FRONTLINE KENT: The Westfield Shaw pillbox near Keycol Hill, Swale, (above) as it looked in 1919 and (top) as it is now with historian Alan Anstee

Shadows of Great War's forgotten defences will be revealed on tour

In 1914 a network of trenches and pillboxes was built in case of invasion by the Kaiser. **Chris Murphy** finds out more.

WHILE the nation remembers the millions of casualties as the 100th anniversary of the start of the First World War draws closer, a previously-hidden reminder of the very real threat this country faced still marks the Kent landscape.

While the battle was waged on the killing fields of the Continent, confidence in securing victory on foreign soil was far from assured.

It was feared that if Allied troops were pushed back from the Western Front, German troops could cross the Channel and look to fight their way from Kent towards London.

So, as a consequence, lines of defence were built on a vast scale across the county.

Trenches, pillboxes and machine-gun emplacements were meticulously planned out and building work started, just in case the Kaiser's men won the conflict in Europe.

Now these 'battlefields' are all but forgotten.

But, as we approach the anniversary of the start of hostilities in July, tours are being organised to shed light on what is dubbed 'Frontline Kent'.

Local historians Alan Anstee and Victor Smith are the organisers behind the project.

Mr Anstee said: "Everyone familiar with the county's history knows about the coast's Tudor castles, the early 19th-century forts, Martello towers and Royal Military Canal built to deter an invasion by Napoleon, and the pillboxes and tank traps hurriedly erected in the summer of 1940, when Hitler was expected to launch an invasion across the English Channel.

"Few, however, know that at the end of 1914 work began on the creation of epic lines of anti-invasion field defences, ready for action in the event of an invasion by the Kaiser's army and navy.

"The many defences extended mainly along the north coast of Sheppey, south of the Swale to Detling and Boxley, and along the North Downs.

"There is also evidence of them on the Hoo peninsula, at Chatham, Wrotham and Dover, and even as far inland as Tonbridge.

"They were elaborated upon from 1915 and the lines then began to

resemble the Western Front, with miles of barbed wire, trenches, redoubts, pillboxes, blockhouses and gun positions.

"They were to be manned and fought from by a home defence army similar to the Second World War's Home Guard. They were removed and filled in by German prisoners of war in 1919 and then gradually faded from memory, leaving remnants that are only now being rediscovered."

On the tour will be a strategic hill at Chestnut Street, Swale, where a defence line of trenches and barbed wire was built.

There is also a pillbox at Keycol Hill, Swale, another at Wormdale Farm in Newington, plus three oval pillboxes found in the Yelsted Lane and Stockbury areas of Swale.

Trenches were also dug at Stockbury and a machine-gun emplacement created at Cranbrook Wood, Newington.

These long-forgotten fortifications are only now being revealed as the Kent Archaeological Society and Maidstone Museum host a guided tour on Saturday, May 3.

It takes in the best of the secret invasion defences built not long after Britain declared war on Germany in August, 1914.

Mr Anstee said: "Our defences were not built only in case of a mainland defeat – the government realised if a German force, albeit a small one, was able to land in Kent and make their way to Woolwich and put our main arsenal out of commission, even for a few weeks, it would stop supplies to the front line and essentially cripple the war effort in Europe.

“ The many defences extended mainly along the north coast of Sheppey, south of the Swale to Detling and Boxley, and along the North Downs ”

Alan Anstee,

Local historian and tour organiser

"The war could have ended there and then, so defending Kent was of vital importance."

He says that many of the 19 pillboxes remain and we as a county have lost just three of them – one was destroyed and two have not yet been found. Battlements and fortifications along with where trenches were dug can still be recognised today.

He said: "The Thames was heavily protected by large weapons, including 9.2-inch guns at Sheerness and at Grain. Any German ship coming up the estuary could be targeted. There were also submarines and minefields.

"So if a German force wanted to come into England, they would have had to do it at somewhere like Faversham – so it was decided that would be where the main land defences would be.

"South of the Swale, there were about 19 kilometres of defences.

"You can stand in certain places and see the spots where the trenches have been filled in.

"In other locations, you can stand shoulder-deep in a ditch, but there is only 50 metres of that left now."

The defence of Kent was taken extremely seriously and was often mentioned in Cabinet papers.

Mr Anstee said: "At one stage in 1915, we had 10 divisions earmarked for home defence, but they were not very well equipped.

"Out of those, three had no artillery at all, two had some very antiquated French guns, and I mean going back to 1877, and the others had whatever was available, probably the converted guns that were left over after the Boer War. There was no real big stuff at all. The big guns we did have were all improvised because all the decent stuff had gone to France."

The historians say some of the tour will be by coach but warn physical fitness and decent footwear are essential as some are off the beaten track.

Tickets are priced at £40 and £35 for seniors and members of Maidstone Museum Foundation.

■ **For more information on the tours you can contact Amy Adams at Maidstone Museum on 01622 602845 or email AmyAdams@maidstone.gov.uk.**



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SMS services are provided by BBA Digital helpline telephone 0844 3572403.

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Charity's phone game puts 'you' out on the streets

The Canterbury-based homeless group Porchlight hopes its role-play game will open the eyes of passers-by and make them more sympathetic to the perils and plight facing the county's rough sleepers. **Sarah Linney** finds out more.

SPENDING a week on the streets and facing all the perils that go with it is something that many of us will never have to endure.

But to give us a sense of the challenges and dangers that lurk there, a leading homelessness charity has released an app designed to do just that.

It is the brainchild of Canterbury-based Porchlight.

Using two fictional characters, Jon and Sarah, the app puts users in the shoes of a virtual homeless person for a week, presenting them with different scenarios they might face.

Through a series of role-play games, the user will need to make decisions to try to keep their homeless alter-ego safe and well, with each choice directly affecting your character's physical and mental health.

The game focuses on both the practical and emotional issues faced by rough sleepers as the latter can get overlooked, the charity says.

"Rough sleepers often have a lot of complex needs and are in varying states of physical and mental health," Mark Parry, spokesman for the charity, said.

"Everybody knows what it's like to be cold and wet, but people don't think about the emotional side.

"We want people to be empathetic rather than sympathetic.

"It's all very well to feel sorry for someone, but we want people to understand that homeless people are people just like them.

"If a few things go wrong we could all end up in that situation. People shouldn't think it's something that couldn't happen to them."

The app is available free from the Apple App Store and was developed for Porchlight, for free, by Tonbridge-based website and app-designer Caboodle Corporate.

The charity has already had requests for an Android version, which it is now looking to develop.

At the end of the game, the app provides Porchlight's contact details and urges players to let the charity know if someone is sleeping rough near them, through either its helpline or a form on its website.

Workers can then try to find that person during one of their early-morning searches.

"Kent is a big place and a lot of it is rural. The more eyes out there that



GAME: Will you download the app?

are helping us find people, the better," said Mr Parry.

"People are very lonely when they are on the streets. It is dangerous and frightening and they often feel isolated even in very public places where there could be hundreds of people walking past.

"Rough sleepers tell us it is soul-destroying to be in that situation. You don't feel connected to society anymore. People don't stop, they don't make eye contact. You end up feeling almost sub-human."

The charity's work involves not

“Rough sleepers tell us it is soul-destroying to be in that situation. You don't feel connected to society any more. You end up feeling almost sub-human.”

Mark Parry,
Porchlight homeless charity

only preventing homelessness and helping rough sleepers come off the streets but raising awareness and changing attitudes. Mr Parry hopes the app will help with this.

"People sometimes feel a bit helpless or scared when they see a rough sleeper and they think what can they do. This gives people a practical thing to do – and there's a reason to keep the app after you've played it, as it means you've got that link in your pocket.

"People get entrenched in that lifestyle – the quicker we can get to them and stop them becoming involved in crime, drugs and alcohol, the better."

Porchlight is following in the footsteps of other charities that have developed their own apps.

One popular app is Charity Miles, which sponsors users to go running, walking or cycling, tracking the distance they've covered and donating money to their chosen charity.

The app has had about 350,000 downloads since it was launched in 2012 and its makers are hoping this will run into millions.

Porchlight's effort was partly inspired by iHobo, an app developed by national homeless charity Depaul UK.

Players take care of, and provide for, a virtual homeless youth for three days, making decisions about food, shelter and support and receiving alerts when the youth needs attention.

iHobo has clocked up an impressive 750,000 downloads to date and was number one in Apple's app store for weeks after it was launched.

Porchlight hasn't set itself a target for downloads, but Mr Parry is hoping the app will appeal to everyone, from young people to commuters trying to pass the time on the train to work.

"It's a five-minute game – and you're supporting a charity by playing it," he said.

"This is just another way of raising awareness. We've got to try all possible media, all possible ways of reaching all audiences.

"I would ask anyone who is homeless or knows someone facing homelessness or housing issues to call us as soon as possible. No matter how bad things are, we're here to help them."

■ To download the app, visit the Apple Store. To let Porchlight know about a homeless person, call its free 24-hour helpline on 0800 567 7699 or visit www.porchlight.org.uk/tellus.



IGNORED: Porchlight hopes its phone app will encourage the public to help get people off the streets and away from the temptation of crime or drugs

WHAT OUR TESTERS SAID...

WE DECIDED to put the app to the test with our own panel of testers – and it certainly got some mixed reviews.

Some were hugely impressed – others said it was too simplistic.

Here is a selection of their comments – good and bad...

Robert Jackson, 22: "I liked the concept of going through a full week in the eyes of a homeless person and the app opened my eyes to the struggles they face on a daily basis. I'd definitely recommend it in an effort to create more awareness."

Gemma Phazey, 27: "I so loved the app. I really did enjoy playing it and felt I learned so much."

Dan Pittock, 22: "It was an eye-opener. The charity isn't one I would normally consider, but it makes you think about their issues. I liked the ways you could get in touch with Porchlight after using the app, but I think it is aimed at a younger audience."

Aster Hall, 22: "It was very informative, but I didn't really like the games themselves as I found them quite simple."

Phil Verney, 30: "I didn't find it helpful – several games left me feeling confused. But designed differently it could be good"

■ PORCHLIGHT was founded in 1974 by Tom Gifford, who had himself been homeless, and was formerly known as East Kent Cyrenians.

■ The charity works with homeless people, and those at risk of becoming homeless, all over Kent and in Croydon. Its head office is in Canterbury.

■ It also works both to prevent homelessness and to help homeless people rebuild their

lives through a variety of services, including training and education opportunities, helping find accommodation and helping access benefits and healthcare. There are specialist services for young people, ex-offenders and those with mental-health problems.

■ About 89 pence in every pound the charity receives goes directly to provide services for homeless people.



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Public Health England's report that it has seen a rise this year in the number of people suffering from a largely forgotten disease is not good news for those feeling under the weather, writes **Chris Murphy**

PARENTS across the county have been put on alert after a sharp national rise in the number of cases of scarlet fever.

Public Health England (PHE) has reported that numbers have soared in the first eight weeks of the year compared with the same time last year.

In 2014 there have been 1,215 notified cases so far – a hefty increase on last year's total of 958.

This is a 24-year high, the organisation said, and there is no vaccine.

The bacterial illness causes a distinctive itchy rash, high temperature and sore throat as well as a white coating on the tongue.

While it is often mild, it can cause the sufferer to feel ill for up to five days and is highly contagious.

The numbers are rising in Kent, too.

In the area covered by Kent County Council – which excludes Medway – there have been almost 30 cases diagnosed already this year.

Although scarlet fever is most prevalent in winter, were the 28 cases recorded up to March 3 to be repeated at the same rate through the year, last year's figures would be comfortably exceeded.

There were 81 cases in 2011, 95 in 2012 and 108 last year.

In the far smaller area of Medway, figures almost doubled last year, rising from nine in 2012 to 16 in 2013.

But PHE says there is no need for anyone to panic as the disease can be treated with antibiotics if captured quickly enough.

The number of cases in the UK tends to fluctuate, sometimes wildly.

However, the recent increase is causing some anxiety.

A PHE spokesman said: "It [scarlet fever] is usually cyclical with plenty of peaks and troughs, but this year it is higher than normal, hence the warning for everyone to be aware."

The number of cases normally rises during the winter months because bacteria that cause the illness are found in mucus and saliva, which can be spread through coughing and sneezing.

Children are most at risk, but adults are also susceptible, so all need to be vigilant, says PHE.

The majority of cases clear up naturally in about a week, but a course of antibiotics is advised to avoid possible complications.

Anyone who thinks they may have scarlet fever – and it is still a rarity – should remain indoors for at least a day after taking the medication to avoid spreading it further.

Dr Theresa Lamagni, PHE's head of streptococcal infection surveillance,

“It [scarlet fever] is usually cyclical with plenty of peaks and troughs, but this year it is higher than normal, hence the warning for everyone to be aware”

Public Health England, who reported the sharp rise in disease

kentnews.co.uk kent-life.co.uk

24-year high in scarlet fever cases leaves our health chiefs sweating

NUMBERS IN KENT



NUMBERS IN MEDWAY



said: "The first symptoms of scarlet fever often include a sore throat, headache, fever, nausea and vomiting.

"Between 12 to 48 hours after this, a characteristic rash develops.

"Cases are more common in children than in adults. Symptoms usually clear up after a week and in the majority of cases remain reasonably mild providing a course of antibiotics is completed to reduce the risk of complications.

"Children or adults diagnosed with scarlet fever are advised to stay at home until at least 24 hours after the start of antibiotic treatment to avoid passing on the infection.

"Public Health England publishes guidance for healthcare settings and

schools where infections can spread easily. Where outbreaks occur, local health protection teams are on hand to provide a rapid response, effective outbreak management and advice.

"We will continue to closely monitor these increases and work with healthcare professionals to try and halt the spread of infection."

Andrew Scott-Clarke, director of public health for Kent, said: "A fine red rash develops which feels like sandpaper if you touch it.

"Typically it first appears on the chest and stomach, rapidly spreading to other parts of the body.

"On more darkly-pigmented skin,

the scarlet rash may be harder to spot, although the 'sandpaper' feel should be present

"Scarlet fever can be treated with antibiotics, but it is important people wash their hands often, not share eating utensils with an infected person, and also wash or dispose of handkerchiefs and tissues contaminated by an infected person.

"If you think you, or your child, have scarlet fever, it is important you see your GP as soon as possible, make sure that you and/or your child takes the full course of any antibiotics prescribed by the doctor, stay at home, away from school or work for at least 24 hours after starting treatment, to avoid spreading the infection."

A disease that killed so many

SCARLET fever symptoms are generally a sore throat, headache, swollen neck glands and, more distinctively, peeling skin on fingertips and toes, and a white coating on the tongue. Antibiotics can quickly clear it up.

But it wasn't always the case.

As recently as the early 20th century, it was the biggest killer of young children. Hearing diagnoses of scarlet fever almost certainly meant death.

In the 1800s, there were serious epidemics of the disease, killing as many as 1.5 people in every 1,000.

Science blogs report it is generally agreed upon that the first sufficiently detailed paper identifying scarlet fever as a disease distinct from other rashes appears in 1553.

In it, the Italian physician Giovanni Ingrassia describes the disease and refers to it as 'rossalia', meaning 'rose'.

The term 'febris scarlatina' appears in a 1676 publication by the British physician Thomas Sydenham.

It was the discovery of penicillin that provided the breakthrough in successfully treating the illness, seeing the mortality rate drop dramatically.

Famous victims

INVENTOR Thomas A Edison survived scarlet fever, but it is claimed it may have caused his partial deafness.

British-born Caroline Matilda, who went on to become Queen of Denmark and Norway, died from the disease at the age of 23 in 1775, along with composer Johann Strauss in 1840.

Maria Franziska von Trapp, the second daughter of Captain Georg von Trapp, caught the disease from her mother Agathe Whitehead, who died from the disease.

Jean Harlow, the Hollywood sex symbol of the 1930s, contracted it as a little girl.

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Yoko Ono tops the list for the third Triennial

A wind-powered lift on the viaduct, lighting up the gas works... oh, and Yoko Ono set to take the Folkestone festival to new heights. By **Greg Miles**.

THE Folkestone Triennial is really putting itself on the map this year with the announcement that Yoko Ono will be among its contributing artists.

The third instalment of the arts extravaganza gets under way in August, but this week culture vultures found out just exactly what is in store for them.

The organising group behind the event, the Creative Foundation, is hoping that it will bring with it a legacy of investment and opportunity for those in the town.

Ono, a peace activist, musician and concept artist, and who was married to Beatle John Lennon for 11 years until his death in 1980, will create several text works that will be displayed around the town.

One of her pieces is a new 'instruction', an invitation to the people of Folkestone that will be on show at Quarterhouse in Tontine Street.

It is not the first time the 81-year-old has exhibited in the town as she staged an event in the now-defunct Metropole arts centre in 1966.

Although not confirmed, it is hoped she will appear at the event some time this summer.

“ The Triennial is instrumental in regenerating Folkestone. It's going to be an exciting year for the town ”

In total there will be work from 19 different artists on display around the town from Saturday, August 30, until Sunday, November 2, with some being selected to stay put afterwards.

Works include the refurbishment of Payers Park, clay installations by Andy Goldsworthy, a bamboo scaffolding-inspired structure at the harbour railway viaduct, a web of colour and light on the derelict gasworks site, a lookout suspended from the Grand Burstin Hotel, a food-themed architectural installation at the Glassworks Sixth Form Centre and a wind-powered lift on the Foord Road viaduct.

The triennial started in 2008 under the guidance of the Creative Foundation, making site-specific work for locations around the



BIG NAMES: Above, Yoko Ono will exhibit work in Folkestone. Below is Pablo Bronstein's Four Alternate Designs For A Lighthouse In The Style Of Nicholas Hawksmoor, which is one of the many works to be unveiled

town, some of which were made permanent. The 2011 festival included the mermaid by Cornelia Parker and Tracey Emin's Baby Things.

Those works have become popular visitor attractions and even been adopted as iconic images for the area.

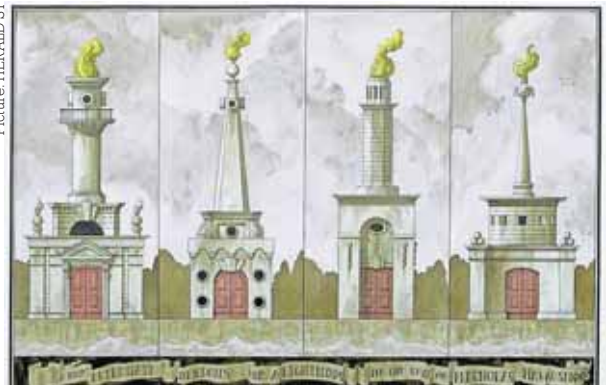
Heading the event this year is curator Lewis Biggs. He is no stranger to such projects, having overseen the Liverpool Biennial for 10 years until 2010. He also held the post of director of Tate Liverpool from 1990 until 2000.

Although he lived in Liverpool for 25 years, he is more than familiar with this county.

"I grew up in Kent and had family holidays in Margate," he said. "I used to hang out in milk bars and watch the mods and rockers in the 60s. My own personal understanding of east Kent goes back a long way."

That said, he has spent time in the two years since his appointment researching the area,

Picture: HERALD ST



enabling him to come up with the concept of Lookout.

The concept is that "visitors to Lookout will be physically and emotionally transported to glimpse different perspectives on the future through an array of fabulous new artworks. They will be invited to reflect on the artists'

hopes and fears about universal issues: the gap between rich and poor, climate and environment, demography and migration, sustainability, regeneration, technology and communication.

Continued on page 34 »

» Features team

Editor: Dave Mairs

dave.mairs@archant.co.uk
Tel: 01303 817022

Reporter: Greg Miles

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YORK MIX





THE PAST AND PRESENT: Left is Patrick Tuttofuoco's Folkestone Express, commissioned for the 2008 Triennial, and right is the 2014 curator Lewis Biggs, who has created the concept Lookout

« Continued from page 31

urban design, social engineering, food security and all the other aspects of our daily lives that are changing ever faster”.

“I came to see the previous two examples of the Triennial,” said Biggs.

“It is a unique event, not in the sense of commissioning art for public space because a lot of people do that, but one thing that’s unique is the sheer scale of what it is in a town this

size. Secondly, it’s this business about having an ongoing dialogue with the town – that ambition of commissioning art that may become permanent is unique in this country.

“It doesn’t happen at many other places.”

Having surveyed the canvas that is the town, he then sets about selecting who he would like to get involved:

“The Folkestone Triennial presents a very special opportunity for artists who want the challenge of showing

“ I see my job as understanding context. I spend the first year researching Folkestone in its history and seeing where the energy is. What are the debates publicly and privately? ”

outside the gallery, museum or sale room.

“I have been careful to invite only artists whose works fits the opportunity, who want to be in dialogue with the urban context, who have something to say about contemporary life in a wider world and who want to engage with a broader audience.

“I see my job as understanding the context. I spent the first year researching Folkestone and its history and seeing where the energy

is. What are the debates publicly and privately?

“Nothing happens without energy. There has to be some passion around somewhere. I research the opportunity and find the artist who can respond to that opportunity.”

He said the Pent Stream had been a big inspiration in his approach to the Triennial and was a focus of what he hoped it would achieve.

“I try to focus on the stream as

Continued on page 35 »

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« Continued from page 35

being the heart that frankly has been forgotten and overlooked because most of the money and power in Folkestone wants to turn its back on the heart, which is a disaster," he said.

"You have to respect history, which doesn't mean going back into history but understanding it, which helps you understand the character and shape of a place.

"Until money and power re-engages with its heart it's not going to thrive.

"If it can prompt power and money to re-engage with its heart it will have done some good."

Two artists who are well placed to discuss the stream are Diane Dever, who set up the Folkestone Fringe, and Jonathan Wright.

They are involved in the Triennial for the first time this year and will use sculptural installations to invite reflection on the global and growing importance of water in the future.

Their work rediscovers the hidden waterways of the Pent Stream, which in their eyes is an untapped and unseen resource that flows from the hills to the harbour that was a foundation of Folkestone's past prosperity.

"The Triennial is instrumental in regenerating Folkestone," said Dever. "The sites are strategic in thinking about the future. It's going to be a really exciting year for the town."

Wright added: "Things are finally coming together and being announced and it means we are able to produce the work. It has a major impact.

"As time moves on, the legacies of the work are considerable. There is a distinct change."

Creative Foundation chief executive Alistair Upton was equally pleased with the announcement and feels it will be a more visible offering this year.

"It's incredibly exciting," he said.

"We've got a wonderful range of artists, internationally-admired artists, local artists, from the established to the young.

"There's going to be some size to it, it's going to have some impact. There are big names and more work outside. Last time there was more work inside. So in terms of physical size, it's the biggest."

“We've got a wonderful range of artists, internationally-admired artists, local artists, from the established to the young”

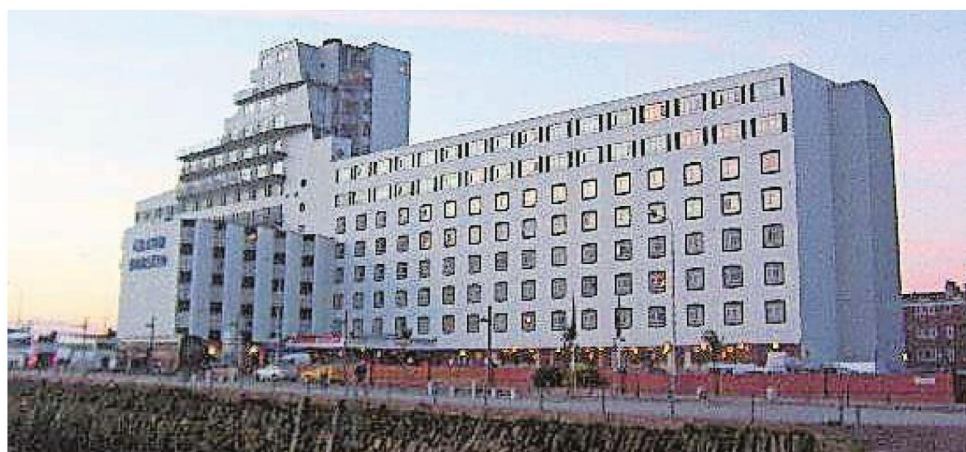
He stressed that the event was important to the town beyond this year: "You see people coming down with their maps to find where the artworks are. It has this long life, meaning people come all the time to visit.

"You notice how some of the images of the Triennial become images of the town – people take pictures of the mermaid and talk about it."

■ For more information, visit www.folkestonetriennial.org.uk.

Picture: GABRIEL LESTER

ARTS: Gabriel Lester's plans, above, for a bamboo-inspired work at the harbour station viaduct rendering. Below, the Grand Burstin Hotel will have a suspended lookout



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Match up food and drink for St Patrick's weekend

Fancy a drink? **Sam Wylie-Harris** joins in the Gaelic fun, pairing spirits and wines with a heartily traditional Irish menu ahead of Monday's St Patrick's Day

ST Patrick's Day celebrations rarely come in small measures. This annual festival is all about feasting, fun and finding the perfect excuse to raise a glass to the land of the shamrock.

A whiskey from Bushmills is a good place to start, too. Its long history of distilling dates back to 1608 and its famous single malt, Bushmills Malt Irish Whiskey 10 Year Old (£27.25, 70cl, www.thewhiskyexchange.com), is sweet and soft with butterscotch and honey notes, a touch of sherry wood and lingering spice.

It's also triple-distilled and peat-free, and the ideal match for simple Irish nosh, like a plate of whiskey-glazed corned beef and cabbage.

Pot still whiskey, a blend of malted and unmalted barley, produces a more intense, heavier style of spirit. Made in a pot still, it's also triple-distilled (this type is unique to Ireland, whereas Scottish whisky is double-distilled) and the pure, full flavours really stand out in Writers Tears Pot Still Irish Whiskey (£28, 70cl, Marks & Spencer).

“Pot still whiskey, a blend of malted and unmalted barley, produces a more intense, heavier style of spirit. Made in a pot still, it's also triple-distilled”

A fitting name for a country so rich in arts and literature, Writers Tears is aged in flame-charred bourbon barrels, is slightly sweet with rich fruit, oak and caramel notes on the long, fruity finish and would be delicious slightly diluted with a side dish of creamy colcannon (mash potatoes and cabbage).

Meanwhile, Green Spot Pot Still (£36.45, 70cl, Waitrose) is matured in old and new bourbon and sherry casks, and it is delightfully rich and peppery with spice, apple and clove notes, and a fruity sweetness finishing with some sherry nuttiness.

One of the many lucky charms of the Emerald Isle is its rugged coast and freshly-caught seafood, so to wash down a plate of Dublin Bay prawns, why not try a white wine



CRAICING GOOD TIME: The Writers Tears Pot Still Irish Whiskey, centre, is aged in flame-charred bourbon barrels while the rustic red Plaimont Producteurs AOC Madiran Reserve des Tuguets 2010, right, is a fine tipple

from Galicia in north-west Spain, a place that boasts an equally dramatic coastline?

The godello is one of the region's most exciting grapes, sometimes blended with palomino to achieve a breezy, minerally white with a beguiling, saline quality. Try Las Minas del Sil Godello Palomino 2012, Spain (£9.99, www.laithwaites.co.uk), and you can almost hear the crashing waves.

For nibbling on some soda bread, another Irish favourite, a South American Cabernet Sauvignon made from old, gnarled vines will complement Irish beef stew or beef and Guinness pie.

Rich, smooth and plummy, try Domaine Vistalba Vinalba Cabernet Sauvignon 2011, Mendoza, Argentina (£9.99, Waitrose), with classical blackberry and bramble fruits and a good structure to suit thick sauces.

For rounding off the meal with a good Irish cheese board (and perhaps more soda bread), a rustic red from south-west France such as Plaimont Producteurs AOC Madiran Reserve des Tuguets 2010, France (£11.99, Tesco), will complement with its concentrated, plummy flavours, firm tannins, anise and mint on the savoury finish.

However, for sporting fans worried a Madiran may not bode well with the Six Nations clash between Ireland and France on St Paddy's weekend, Innis & Gunn has released its seasonal Irish Whiskey Finish (£1.99, 33cl, Tesco) to mark the Celtic connection between Ireland and Scotland.

A sturdy stout at 7.4 per cent abv, made from Scottish malt matured over Irish whiskey-infused oak, it's earthy and hoppy with a rich, malty taste, ending with an oaky sweetness on the creamy mouthfeel – a very fine alternative to a good, old-fashioned Guinness.

Self-sufficient eatery has the sought-after magical touch

Wallett's Court

Location: Westcliffe, St Margaret's at Cliffe



HISTORY AND STYLE: Wallett's Court has an open fire, beams, exposed brickwork and a new extension area

By **Tim Miles**

Welcoming surroundings, a friendly atmosphere, helpful staff, delicious food, flavoursome drinks, good company and, the final ingredient, a certain something in the air... a magic, whatever you want to call it when all the planets are in alignment. Trying to capture all those elements that make up a memorable evening? You might as well try to bottle smoke.

My evening at Wallett's Court certainly ticked all the boxes. It was not somewhere I was aware of, but I

am now! For those others who don't know: Wallett's Court is a Grade II-listed ancient manor at Westcliffe near Dover. This intimate hotel and restaurant blends hundreds of years of history with, as the brochure says, "twenty-first century comforts".

The restaurant is a delight and much finer, more refined and much more experienced palates than mine have enjoyed the food here.

Our evening began with a drink at the bar while we ordered. This stunning room with its open fire and exposed brickwork and beams was so

relaxing and cosy, I simply didn't want to move through to the restaurant when our table was ready.

There are two parts to the restaurant and my guest and I were seated in the older, beamed part, rather than the newer, still delightful but less characterful, extension.

The winter menu was extensive and made my mouth water just reading it. Wallett's Court's large garden provides many of the restaurant's fruit, vegetables and herbs, while the local specialities include St Margaret's Bay lobster, Romney Marsh lamb and Alkham Valley beef.

My guest started with rillettes of

hot smoked Irish loch salmon with crème fraîche, while I chose the wild rabbit pithivier with Pedro Ximenez sherry sauce. The salmon was delicious and my gamey rabbit perfectly matched to the puffy pastry and sherry sauce.

Our main courses were braised Kentish lamb, savoy cabbage, roasted vegetables and dauphinoise potato, and the chargrilled Hereford steer beef with chestnut mushroom and Madeira sauce. Both were excellent. The lamb was tender and the whole dish was, according to my guest, "a delight".

My beef was well cooked – I asked for medium rare – and the sauce sublime. It was rich with hints of

sweetness.

For pudding we decided to share a selection of British cheeses with Wallett's own winter chutney. Again, this was a delight, with a good selection of hard and soft cheeses and a tangy chutney.

Our meal of two starters, two main courses, one pudding and two coffees came to £86.85.

What did I think? We will be going back soon!

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Please include your name and address, although these will be withheld in exceptional circumstances, and a daytime phone number for verification (this will not be published). We reserve the right to edit all letters.

Federal states of Europe on way

CAMPAIGNERS calling for Kent County Council to be scrapped (KoS, last week), will only have to wait a bit longer and it will be done for them.

Unprecedented changes to the way this country is governed are just around the corner.

When the EU at Brussels unleashes the Federal United States of Europe, of which the Tories, Labour and Lib Dems are hell bent on making sure we are a part of, all county and local councils will disappear overnight.

A federal Europe will comprise only regional assemblies and unitary authorities within each regional assembly area.

The unitary authorities will answer to the regional assemblies and the regional assemblies will answer only to Brussels.

The UK already has nine regional assemblies waiting covertly in the wings for the big day when we have the last vestiges of democracy taken from us. One obnoxious woman MEP from Luxembourg even said recently: "In a federal Europe there is only one government – Brussels – so get used to it!"

Brussels will not recognise any nation states or governments.

Reports say Kent and Sussex have already been erased from the official maps in Brussels and lumped together with a part of northern France to make the Trans-Manche region of Europe. Other parts of England have similarly been joined with mainland Europe.

So all those who want to kiss their country goodbye only have to vote for any of the three main political parties at the coming European elections.

Roger Arnold, Herne Bay

Practical to keep KCC for moment

AMID everything else happening at a local level right now, do we really want to be considering going through the trauma and expense of scrapping Kent County Council and introducing a whole range of others?

I understand the pros and cons, but the practicality of it happening would mean job losses at a time when the economy remains fragile, not to mention the administrative headache of having to notify everyone of the changes – a move which would not come cheap.

Let's keep what we have. It ain't broke, as they say, so let's not fix it... yet.

Sue Thrower, Maidstone

LETTER OF THE WEEK



Time to liberate cash from administration

IT seems to me to make perfect sense to split Kent into four unitary authorities rather than retain the one umbrella organisation of Kent County Council we have now (KoS 09/03).

Purely by streamlining a variety of administrative functions, there would be significant savings to be made, with the chances being that it could then free up some money currently locked into paying for key administration; this would be liberated for frontline services.

The only way I can see it being problematic is that the likes of

Paul Carter would see his power base massively eroded.

What's more, it could actually mean the county stops being true blue and turns a slightly more interesting colour.

Arguably, it creates a political map far more representative of the different strands of Kent society.

The reality, of course, is that I'm sure such a suggestion makes the charisma-free Paul Carter wince at the very thought of it.

Perhaps it would be time to start turning up the pressure for such a change.

J Turner, Hildenborough

No defence on this sticky wicket

WHAT I didn't understand from the article on the future of Kent County Council is why the authority itself didn't want to come out and defend itself.

Or why, once again, Paul Carter remained silent. Is it because they realise they are on a sticky wicket?

K Williams, Tunbridge Wells

Boss's high-speed charm offensive

THE interview with Charles Horton was interesting (KoS 09/03), but I cannot help notice Southeastern's sudden charm offensive has only come at the point when negotiations

to extend its franchise appeared on the horizon.

What's more, it would seem the firm is utterly obsessed with only focusing on the high-speed service through the county.

While I appreciate this is an extremely good service, and makes a big difference to a lot of towns, it also comes at a premium.

As I understand it, each ticket is some 30 per cent more expensive than a regular ticket.

Little wonder, then, that it is so keen to get more of us onto it.

L Ford, Chatham

Communication has been derailed

IT'S all very well Charles Horton saying last week how brilliant the

services his company provides are, and how commuters have forgotten about investment in stations and so on, but the reality is the service betrays its users at their most vulnerable.

When there is any sort of inclement weather, the whole timetable is shot to bits.

I understand this is as much Network Rail as Southeastern, but surely it is not beyond the wit of man to relay that information to the passengers left standing on the platform?

Or, for that matter, to have staff on the platforms who can actually provide accurate information and not look at travellers with utter disdain or communicate merely by grunts.

K Leaver, Ashford

Seaside parking emergency fear

I OFTEN read the KoS letters pages and enjoy the banter between those who seem to think motorists should be able to speed along at the speed of sound and those who feel a rather more cautious approach is a somewhat safer one.

Where, I wonder, do the pro-car correspondents stand when it comes to parking?

I ask, in particular, with relation to the swarms of people who descend on our seaside towns at the slightest sign of a bit of sun.

I had the misfortune of popping to see a relative in Whitstable on Sunday afternoon.

On a road that is far from wide, visitors had clearly just decided to park wherever they felt most comfortable – even if that was right on top of signs that clearly said 'keep clear'.

It turned one of the main roads leading down from the harbour into one long line of snarled-up traffic and irate motorists.

I dread to think what would have happened if any emergency vehicles needed to access the area.

I'm sure many will simply believe that motorists can park wherever. Personally, I think engaging a little more common sense could be the answer.

C James, Herne Bay

Well done to our winter wonders

JUST wanted to say well done to our Olympic and Paralympic winter athletes. I knew all the past few winters' snow would come in handy.

H Bell, Canterbury

KOS 10 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

AS part of our commitment to providing the best service to you, we have produced our 10 guiding principles which tie in with our parent company Archant's overall mission statement.

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Whitstable Harbour

by **David Curry**
from Whitstable

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See page **45**

Expert advice on how to give a new venture the best possible start



See page **48**

Airport bosses jet out to Dubai to put Lydd on the international radar



BusinessQuarter

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Spring 2014



DECISIONS, DECISIONS:
Chancellor George Osborne will deliver his Budget to the nation this coming Wednesday

Let us grow George: Budget plea to help continue the revival

By Chris Britcher

chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

CHANCELLOR George Osborne needs to deliver 'cashback' with his Budget this week in order to allow businesses to flex their muscles.

That is the call from one of the county's key business figures who says the Coalition needs to introduce measures which will allow industry to build on the increasing mood of economic optimism.

While recovery to pre-recession levels are still some way off, latest

research would suggest things are, finally, looking up, with increased orders and a sense 2014 will improve on the previous 12 months.

And there is every chance, with a General Election looming on the horizon, George Osborne and Prime Minister David Cameron will be keen to be seen to offer businesses – their traditional political bedfellows – a fair crack of the whip.

Roger House is chairman of the Kent and Medway branch of the Federation of Small Business (FSB).

Continued on page 43 »

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ON THE CASE: The county's business leaders want Chancellor George Osborne's Budget to create long-term growth

« Continued from page 41

The support network represents the views of some 6,500 small to medium-sized businesses (SMEs) across the county.

Speaking to Business Quarter, Mr House said: "I feel the Government has to now take its hands out of our pockets and dig deep into its own and give us some cash back, together with the flexibility to grow, based on the increasing environment of optimism."

Speaking at an FSB conference in January, Mr Cameron vowed to ditch or amend some 3,000 rules affecting business as part of a package to save industry millions.

He said then he wanted to "get out of the way of small business success".

Mr House added: "When we met the prime minister and chancellor in January they were full of commitment to the small business sector. We need that converted into hard reality."

Certainly a combination of impending elections and a gradual and cautious upturn in the economy, would suggest there may be some light at the end of the tunnel courtesy of the chancellor's red box.

However, he is likely to be cautious too. Right now the Conservative minister needs to be seen to be a safe and prudent pair of hands on the nation's purse strings.

But while it is unlikely to be a generous Budget for many – the nation's overall deficit is far from under control just yet – it is hoped the business sector will see generosity in order to

allow it to play its vital role in fanning the flames of economic recovery.

Mr House said: "FSB research continues to show increased confidence across all sectors and notably in members' investment and employment intentions."

"With the recovery under way it is important business owners begin to feel the measures already announced are having a positive effect."

"This is why the chancellor should look at 'focus and delivery' for initiatives already announced to create long-term growth."

"I feel the Government has to take its hands out of our pockets and dig deep into its own and give us some cash back, together with the flexibility to grow based on the environment of optimism"

"The FSB has welcomed the Government's recent moves to support employment; notably the employment allowance and a pledge to cut red tape."

"The focus now needs to be on addressing fundamental structural issues. Getting more competition and transparency in key sectors such as energy and financial services will greatly help small firms."

The recovery certainly shows encouraging signs.

In December, economic growth for

2014 was forecast at 2.4 per cent. The Bank of England now expects that to be closer to 3.4 per cent.

Nick Paterno is managing partner of Sidcup-based McBrides Accountants.

Speaking ahead of Wednesday's announcement, he said: "We have been speaking to our clients ahead of the Budget, many of whom are concerned about the impact of business rate increases."

"They are hoping for more relief than that put forward by the chancellor in his December autumn statement when he set a cap of two per cent for 2014/15."

"But we also know of other pre-announced measures which will impact SMEs and their owners."

"In particular, there will be a drop in the 100 per cent annual investment allowance for plant and machinery falling from £250,000 to just £25,000 from December 31, 2014."

"Auto-enrolment [pension provision] is starting to 'kick-in' for employers over the next year or two, adding significantly to payroll costs, and there will be a cap on annual pension contributions falling from £50,000 to £40,000, with a decrease also in the lifetime allowance from £1.5 million to £1.25m."

"Many local SMEs will be looking for something positive from the chancellor on March 19 and further targeted assistance with employment costs would be especially welcome."

■ George Osborne will deliver the Budget at 12.30pm on Wednesday, March 19 in the House of Commons.

Business ...in brief

Index confirms optimism yet underlines challenge to SMEs

SMALL and medium-sized businesses in the region have yet to quite push through the pain barrier according to the latest figures.

The Business Factors Index examines sentiment and performance of some 500 UK SME owners across manufacturing, construction, transport, wholesale and business services sectors. And this week it reported its findings for the final quarter of 2013.

Produced by Bibby Financial Services, it revealed that in the south east 44 per cent saw an increase in orders, up from 34 per cent in Q3. However, only 26 per cent reported an increase in new customers - down from 34 per cent in Q3.

There was also a drop in the number investing in the business at 27 per cent (down from 32).

Blibby's Paul Cunningham said: "The reality for many SMEs is that running a business is still a huge challenge."



TOUGH: But orders up



DANGER: Are your staff set to quit?

Report reveals warning of a 'staff exodus'

BOSSES in the south east are being told to prepare themselves for an impending job exodus as dissatisfied staff seek work elsewhere.

Research conducted by Investors in People has revealed almost half of British workers (47 per cent) are considering moving jobs this year due to work dissatisfaction and increased confidence in the job market.

Mike Bate, business development manager at IIP South of England, said: "Over recent years the market has been tough and some employers have become complacent."

"There is little doubt that employees are an organisation's most vital asset so it makes sense to look after them."

Festival elects MD ahead of 2014 event

PUB landlord David Thompson has been unanimously elected as managing director of the company behind the Faversham Hop Festival. Landlord of the Vaults will head up Faversham Hop Festival Ltd.

It organises the annual event which last year pulled in more than 60,000 visitors.

Positive profits for media company

COMMUNITY media business Archant has announced a healthy increase in operating profits for the last year to £9.4m.

The firm publishes a host of titles around the UK, among them Kent on Sunday and Kent Life.

Net debt at the end of the year stood at £6.8m (2012: £15.7m).

Good looks pave the way to good fortune

HOPING to making your fortune? Then according to the latest research good looks remains a vital weapon in the entrepreneur's arsenal.

A report by researchers of Harvard Business School in the US found "attractive males were particularly persuasive" when pitching new investments to clients.

Appeal set after Waterside Park plans rejected

DEVELOPERS behind ambitious plans for a major new business park on the outskirts of Maidstone say they will appeal after the local council rejected the plans.

Waterside Park was planned for land to the south of the A20, close to junction eight of the M20.

But it was thrown out by Maidstone Borough Council's planning committee.

Now those behind the plans – Auto-

motive Distributors, Scarab Sweepers and Gallagher Properties – have confirmed they will be lodging an appeal.

Both ADL and Scarab had planned to relocate their 500 employees to the site.

Jonathan Buckwell, director of DHA Planning, the Maidstone-based planning consultancy which represents the three companies involved in Waterside Park, said: "We have listened to the views of the committee

and, while the appeal is progressing, we will review the scheme with the possibility of submitting a new planning application."

Derek Edwards, ADL's regional logistics director, added: "It is vital that every one of ours and Scarab's employees, and their families and dependents, knows that we are fighting to stay in Maidstone. It is important for everybody concerned that an appeal is heard as soon as possible."

Apprentices boosted by week

AMID a flurry of publicity earlier this month, National Apprenticeship Week was hailed a success, with 20,000 new apprenticeships pledged by employers nationwide.

Among those vowing to take them on were Canterbury web designers Interactive Red and Dartford-based engineering giants Laing O'Rourke. Business secretary Vince Cable

said: "The Government is putting an end to the damaging divide between vocational and academic learning."

"We are committing the biggest ever investment in apprenticeships and are on track to create two million apprenticeships over the course of this parliament."

For details on apprentices see www.apprenticeships.org.uk.

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Top tips on laying the foundations to allow your start-up to thrive

1 Be sure you choose the right legal structure...

MOST businesses in the UK are sole traders, limited companies or partnerships (LLP or general).

Your choice will depend on a number of factors including: The size and nature of the business; tax considerations; personal liability and your feelings on making public your business details and accounts.

Being a sole trader is probably the simplest option as, depending on licensing or regulatory requirements, you could start trading immediately.

But remember to notify HMRC of your self-employed status. Also, because you are running the business in a personal capacity, you take personal and unlimited responsibility – liability – for all losses and bills.

Should this personal accountability be off-putting, a limited company might have more appeal.

The shareholders own the business and the director(s) run it and look after the legal responsibilities.

The company is responsible for everything it does, and its finances are separate from yours.

However, directors have legal duties and you may be asked to give a personal guarantee, potentially secured on your home, if you need to raise bank finance to support the venture.

If you have a business partner then you have a third choice, as you can form a partnership or limited liability partnership (LLP).

A partnership works in a similar way to a sole trader, whereas an LLP is more like a limited company but is taxed differently and generally considered to be more flexible in relation to profit sharing, decision-making and involving less administration.

2 Decide how the business will run and document it...

IF YOU are going into business with someone else, consider how the new venture will be run.

Key provisions should be recorded in writing, especially if your respective levels of involvement – whether in terms of time or financial contribution – are unequal.

Entering into a shareholders' or partnership agreement from the start is strongly advisable, as no matter how good it may be today, business relationships can turn sour.

Also, unless you agree otherwise, the law will imply certain things into your business relationship for example equal shares in the profits.

3 Organise the right business premises...

WILL you buy or rent premises for your business? Will you need planning permission for a change of use? Or if you run the business from home, are there any restrictions?

If you are going to rent, consider the proposed terms of the lease.

When it comes to getting your own business off the ground, it is easy to overlook some of the basic mechanisms essential to put your fledgling operation on the soundest foundations. In a special article for the Business Quarter, **Kathryn Rogers**, an associate solicitor at Tunbridge Wells-based law firm **Cripps Harries Hall**, outlines her top 10 tips for budding entrepreneurs.



What rights does the landlord have to increase the rent or service charge?

What are your rights to get out of the lease if the business doesn't work out, and what will you have to do when you vacate the premises, for example taking out any fittings you have put in, repairing and re-decorating.

4 Decide how your business will be financed...

YOU need to consider what the costs will be at the start and on an on-going basis, as many businesses don't make money in the first few years.

Many start-ups are initially self-funded from personal savings and even credit cards, often with help from family and friends.

Other forms of finance are available, the most common of which would be a traditional bank loan/overdraft facility.

Other possibilities include government grants, equity finance (which involves selling shares in your business) or business angels (high net worth individuals who offer investment, and often management assistance or specific skills, to new companies).

5 Protect your intellectual property – it's worth it...

TAKE legal advice on how best to protect your products, designs and ideas from competitors who may want to steal your ideas or copy your name, logo or even the product itself.

A trademark attorney can help to

protect your trading or product name, and a patent attorney could help you register a new product or invention. Keep your ideas secret until they are properly protected.

6 Sort out your contracts...

CONTRACTS should be in writing if possible to make your respective rights and responsibilities clear, whether you are buying or selling and dealing with goods or services.

Terms of business, or standard terms and conditions, are usually appropriate where you sell goods or services that are similar every time.

For bespoke products, or services, you may need to negotiate a separate trading contract for each transaction. There is also a raft of laws relating



to consumer contracts if you are dealing with the general public.

7 Be aware of laws and any regulations...

IF YOU employ staff you will need to understand employment law, including health and safety, tax and national insurance. You might need to register for VAT.

If you will be keeping information about individuals – customers or suppliers – you must comply with data protection legislation.

In addition, there may be specific regulations affecting your business. Trade associations and industry bodies are a good place to identify these.

8 Make sure you get your payments paid on time...

PROMPT payment is vital for small and medium-sized enterprises.

Limit the risks of late payment by adhering to a well-defined credit policy: proactively agreeing payment terms before delivering orders; being organised about invoicing and collection, and considering other ways to limit your losses in the event of non-payment.

9 Develop an excellent online identity...

WHETHER a simple website or a complete online presence including blog, social media and interactive mobile app, publicity is important for almost all new businesses.

However, there are a number of legal issues to be aware of, including consumer protection rights regarding cancellation and distance selling.

10 Get informed...

STARTING a new business can be expensive but there are steps you can take to ensure your money is used wisely.

Free services such as www.gov.uk, [www.ipo.gov.uk](http://www ipo.gov.uk), [www.ico.gov.uk](http://www ico.gov.uk) and [www.companieshouse.gov.uk](http://www companieshouse.gov.uk) are available to gather key information.

■ Kathryn Rogers is a specialist in commercial contracts.

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DSH

Why preparing for the unknown is the secret to controlling risk

RISKS are a real and present danger.

Events inside and outside an organisation can irreparably damage the business so it is important to appreciate these risks, and take steps to minimize and remediate their impact.

With limited time and resources, risk management is often ad hoc and incomplete. By using a risk management framework, a business can identify and understand the risk, evaluate its implications for the businesses, and the steps necessary to bring a systematic approach to minimise and mitigate the risk.

A key starting point is to understand the organisation's appetite for risk.

This may be influenced by a range of factors such as the organisational culture or the potential size of any loss.

Not only can absolute risk avoidance be costly, it is impractical to avoid all risks.

In addition, risks are an essential for businesses to expand and grow, therefore a balance needs to be struck between the cost of any potential loss versus the costs of avoiding that loss.

At its simplest, a risk management framework consists of four steps:

1. Analysis - understand the organisation and (critically) its strategy to identify risks
2. Prioritisation - consider the likelihood of each risk occurring, and the impact on the organisation
3. Action planning - develop a co-ordinated risk mitigation action plan
4. Delivery & monitoring - tracking and measuring performance of the action plan

The risk management framework is reviewed annually to ensure it remains relevant. It will include periodic internal audit, specific action plans, strong internal controls and linking with the annual statutory external audit.

Once in place, it will help a business secure a successful future.

Duncan Cochrane-Dyett is business services partner at Maidstone-based DSH Chartered Accountants & Business Advisors.

For more information visit www.dsh.co.uk or call 01622 690666.



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Bosses off to Dubai to raise profile of airport within the travel industry

By Chris Britcher

chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

BOSSES of Lydd Airport will jet out to Dubai later this year to showcase the airport's multimillion-pound development plans at two major travel and aviation events.

The team from Romney Marsh will travel out to the Middle East in May.

It follows the Government's decision last year to approve the airport's £25 million expansion plans.

As a consequence, the airport is expecting a high level of interest in its plans for a 294m runway extension, 150m starter extension, and a new terminal building.

From May 5-8, the Lydd team will be networking with airlines, tour operators and travel and tourism businesses at the Arabian Travel Market.

They will then be visiting the region's leading airport-focused event, the Airport Show, from May 11-13 where they will join more than 250 companies showcasing the latest technology, innovations, products and services to around 7,000 visitors.

Both events are being staged at the Dubai International Convention and Exhibition Centre.



HOW IT WILL LOOK: Lydd Airport bosses will be putting their wares on display at two major travel and aviation events in the Middle East in May this year

Lydd Airport executive manager Hani Mutlaq said: "These events attract high-level decision-makers and

"Lydd Airport is a perfect base for operators, providing extra capacity for the south east"

buyers from across the leisure, travel and aviation industries worldwide and provide an excellent platform for us to

explore new business opportunities.

"The shows also give us the chance to look at the latest technology.

"Lydd Airport is the perfect base for airline operators. Our runway extension will enable B737-type aircraft to fly with a full payload of passengers, maximising the availability of routes and aircraft choice to operators and providing much-needed additional airport capacity in the south east of England.

"It also offers easy access to the motorway network and is just 14 miles south of Ashford, which has the high speed rail link that gets you into London in just 37 minutes."

Lydd Holdings, which owns and operates Lydd Airport – also known as London Ashford Airport – is to invest the £25m in its development.

The owners have already spent £35m upgrading the airport over the last decade – including the installa-

tion of a state-of-the-art instrument landing system; a new executive terminal with VIP facilities; improved passenger check-in and security; and a new departure lounge.

The airport is now nearing completion of a number of pre-commencement conditions, required to enable planning permission for the runway extension to go ahead.

Bosses anticipate construction will begin before the end of the year.

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Lewis Scott, UKTI Director for the South East, said:

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"This highly comprehensive and versatile event will provide Solent businesses with the information they need to grow their business at every stage of their export journey."

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SUSAN 29 green eyes, dark hair, slim, looking for Mr tall dark and handsome to take me out, enjoy adult times without complications just fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410957

KAREN blonde blue eyed slim 35yr old interesting female looking for good times, call me if I am in a similar situation, board and looking for some fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410719

ADVENTUROUS attractive lady seeks no strings casual times with discreet gen. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 409991

JANE pretty size 12, loves going out socialising, countryside, meals out, looking for no strings fun, nothing heavy, give me a call if you are seeking similar. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410579

SUE 32 blonde blue eyed curvy nurse, caring, loving romantic, faithful, likes cosy nights in with a nice wine and lovely man, if that's you, call me. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410571

RACHEL 39, brown hair/eyes, 5ft 6ins, bubbly, outgoing, naughty, busy, divorced, seeks male for discreet fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410835

SUE optimistic divorced lady with OHAC, good job, enjoys meals out, cinema, countryside, pub lunches, looking for likeminded outgoing happy male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410467

SARAH, married lady seeks discreet no strings fun with gent. ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 408291

CATHY very much a lady seeks gent up to 62yrs who would appreciate an independent professional sassy female who loves to be wined, dined and romanced. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410301

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ANNA, busty mature lady seeks no strings discreet meetings with male any age or location. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366019

BLONDE pretty, long legged, voluptuous, blue eyes, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410565

LAURA happy size 12-14, attractive, loves shopping, gym, music, clubbing, eating in/out, looking for sincere honest male looking for more than just good fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410713

KATIE 21yr old very attractive female who is up for most things, looking for daytime fun, no strings and discreet pls. Age/status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410573

SAM, 35yrs, own business, sexy, loves dressing up and married, seeks discreet man for casual meetings. Can travel anywhere. ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 408297

JANE tall leggy blonde size 12, nice/eyes, likes yoga, swimming, meals in/out, etc. WLTm nice tall male/dad with similar interests to spend time with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410487

WOULD you like to be my Valentine? Widow 68, seeking Valentine 68-70, likes most things, would like to share time with someone. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410695

BELSEA 43, driver, own home, N/S, 5ft 6ins, slim, dark hair, green eyes, confident, outgoing, likes most things, seeks N/S male, 40-48. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 408405

TERRI 44 green eyed long legged busty blonde, loves to dress up and look feminine, seeking loving, fun, honest professional to fall head over her heels with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410215

68YR old widow, seeking 68-70yr old gent, likes meals out, cosy nights in, lets start New Year with new outlook. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 409467

CATHY happy independent female looking for her soul mate, someone to spend quality time but who also likes their own space. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 409096

VANESSA 32yrs single mum, honest, loving, kind hearted, been hurt in the past enjoys music, reading etc. WLTm my very special Mr Right. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 409899

MARIE slim attractive fun brunette, looking for good times with exciting broadminded male. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 409707

CLAIRE young 39s slim size 10, pretty, outgoing, seeks similar spontaneous male for nights out and fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 409417

SUE young at heart female, very adventurous and looking for no strings fun with mature man. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 409251

JAN 38yr old attractive lonely female looking for uncomplicated fun times only. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 409107

ANGIE 32 curvy size 16, very attractive, good company and really fun to be with. What are you waiting for? Call me. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 409255

SARAH pretty petite green eyed female, lots of fun, likes children, animals, gym, eating out, running, sports, fast cars, shopping, seeking nice guy to spend time with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 408879

JOANNA slim attractive blue eyed blonde nurse, divorced with two teenagers, lots of love to give, looking for Mr Right, call me lets put the spark back. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 409097

FLOR beautiful educated European blonde, articulate, seeking similar intelligent well-mannered mature gent to enjoy socialising, conversing and quality times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 408293

KAREN 55, fun loving, attractive, young at heart, seeks caring, affectionate man, 55-65 who loves animals and the simple things in life. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 408813

LISA 44, blonde hair, blue eyes, 5ft 6ins, nice personality, trustworthy, kind, likes cinema, nights in, walks, music, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404751

TELSEA 43, driver, own home, N/S, 5ft 6ins, slim, dark hair, green eyes, confident, outgoing, likes most things, seeks N/S male, 40-48. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 408405

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SOPHIE attractive hard working female, who enjoys dancing and good company. WLTm loving male to enjoy nights out and genuine laughter. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 408625

CARIBBEAN female, 50, honest, caring, thoughtful, seeking male for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 408231

CAROLINE 60, 5ft 2ins, likes animals, walks, travel, gardening, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402067

MANDY blonde, blue eyes, voluptuous, honest, likes animals, walks, socialising, seeking older gent, late 70's early 80's. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 408741

SUE attractive, likes walks, gardening, social drinks, looking for male to settle down with, 60's. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410231

SATURDAY night blues! Home alone again and looking for male companionship. Blonde, slim, 32yrs, attractive, what are you waiting for? Call me if you're normal and lovely. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 408867

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TEXT IN NOW AND CHAT TO LOCAL PEOPLE. SEND: CHAT2 TO: 80098 (T&C'S BELOW)

MALE 45, would like to meet a lady for fun/friendship with view to relationship, nice guy, gosh please get in touch if interested. Text Only Mailbox Box No: 4324837

DAVE 65, retired, N/S, likes gardening, music, meals out, holidays, seeks female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410971

DAVE 62, 5ft 10ins, slim, semi-retired builder, seeks no strings discreet daytime meets for adult fun. Surrey. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410899

MALE likes outdoor life, smoker, seeking local female for cosy nights in. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410755

BRIAN 70, Maidstone, seeking female, 60 plus, likes meals out, cinema, theatre, days out and cosy nights in. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410611

DEREK 5ft 11ins, slim-medium build, loving, caring, seeking black lady for possible relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410511

EARLY 50's single male, smoker, seeking likeminded female for company and to share life. Must have GSOH, like animals, walks, home made food and nights in. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410441

41YR old male, dark hair, 5ft 11ins, easy going, likes music, guitar, seeking female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410411

BROWN eyed white mature, handsome male, seeking black female, 18-50 for discreet no strings adult fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410377

PHIL 47, clean shaven, blue eyes, smart, likes sports, walks, films, theatre, music, animals, GSOH, seeks female, 40-55 for fun and friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410351

RETIRED male, fit, active, seeks no strings discreet meet with female, any age and size. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410343

ADVENTUROUS male, mid 50's, seeks similar lady for fun and mutually enjoyable relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410339

CHRIS widower likes DIY, gardening, nights out, rock and roll, N/S, looking for LTR with female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410191

ATTRACTIVE white gent, 48, 56ft, romantic, easy going, GSOH, seeking young lady, 60-75 for quality discreet fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410025

DIVORCED male, seeks Oriental lady, likes animals, music, will take care of you forever. Thane area. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 409963

PROFESSIONAL male, early 40's, fun loving, CHAC, seeks warm, sincere female for LTR. Animals/children welcome. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 409961

SEXY fireman, looking for love and fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407883

LISA busty blonde 34yr old fun to be with single party goer, looking for similar male for adult fun maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 408289

LINDA young 62, smoker, seeking gent, 55-65 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 400521

LONG dark winters days are on their way, seeking male to help female 66 to share life with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407649

MARG elegant attractive affectionate lady who enjoys many varied interests WLTm genuine male 50-60yrs for mutual indulgences. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 408511

HEATHER enjoys holidays, eating in with a large bottle of wine, cooking, meeting new people seeking interesting male to get to know a little better. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 408509

ALEX 35, very attractive, slim, blonde, caring sensitive single mum, likes meals in/out, nice pubs, WLTm similar maledad to love and care for. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 408503

DAVE 50, likes holidays, meals out, socialising, easy going, seeks female 40 plus. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 408541

ADAM 48, single dad, bored, seeking fun and more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 408421

CANTERBURY mature male, medium build, GSOH, varied interests, sign language interpreter, seeks slim-medium build female, 24-42 for LTR. Single mum welcome. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405897

PROFESSIONAL male, early 40's, fun loving, independent, CHAC, seeks warm, sincere, fun loving female for LTR. Animals/children welcome. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 408745

RETIRED male, seeks no strings discreet meets with slim-medium build female, any age for adult fun. Dover. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 409533

DOG lover short of British spaniel lady to maybe get into a 1-2-1 relationship and start something new. Smoker welcome, age immaterial. Tunbridge Wells area. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404417

MALE 50, GSOH, looking for soul mate. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387485

71YR old romantic, 6ft, likes life, socialising, reading, strong tea, dogs, smoker but house trained seeks mature lady needing TLC. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407277

TALL friendly, very light hearted, single 58, seeks pretty woman for LTR, mutual selection of activities and choosing how to spend our time. Croydon. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407147

YOUNG 70 widower, fit, lonely, 5ft 11ins, 11st, likes drives, walks, DIY, meals out, gardening, smoker, looking for lady to spend life with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405519



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Let them know you might be interested by sending them a WINK

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WINK2
*G send WINK 123456 to 80098

DAVE genuine guy, 6ft, black hair, blue eyes, medium build, likes sports, gardening, music, seeks female with GSOH and genuine. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 388372

RETIRED male 68, 5ft 8ins, considerate, GSOH, easygoing, likes driving, shopping, most music, seeking lady 60-70 for friendship. Ashford. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404589

PET lover short of British spaniel lady to maybe get into a 1-2-1 relationship and start something new. Smoker welcome, age immaterial. Tunbridge Wells area. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404417

MALE 50, GSOH, looking for soul mate. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387485

71YR old romantic, 6ft, likes life, socialising, reading, strong tea, dogs, smoker but house trained seeks mature lady needing TLC. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407277

TALL friendly, very light hearted, single 58, seeks pretty woman for LTR, mutual selection of activities and choosing how to spend our time. Croydon. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407147

YOUNG 70 widower, fit, lonely, 5ft 11ins, 11st, likes drives, walks, DIY, meals out, gardening, smoker, looking for lady to spend life with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405519

STEVE 64, active, likes fishing, swimming, karaoke, honest, genuine, seeks female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405717

LIGHT hearted 58yr old male, 6ft, blue eyes, slim, lively, active, seeks pretty woman 28-50 for fun times. Croydon. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393567

KEVIN 40, single dad, employed, good cook/laugh, seeks female for fun and good times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402408

DAVE 45, 6ft, large build, ginger hair, green eyes, caring, OHAC, likes laugh, cinema, pubs, restaurants, seeks shopping, music, dvds, gardening, animals, seeks female of similar age. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405451

35YR old male, 6ft, dark hair, easy going, likes music, films, reading, walks, looking for female for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405941

PROFESSIONAL 45yr old male, one son, bored of the same thing, seeks lady for possible romance. Kent. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386234

CHRIS 68, 5ft 10ins, 13st, frustrated widower, likes country/western music, real ale, gardening, cruises, looking for companionship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402271

55YR old male, average looks, GSOH, looking to meet similar lady for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406227

JAMIE 6ft 10ins, dark hair, blue eyes, seeks female, 40-50, easy going for no strings fun, nights in. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 408051

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By Steve Loader
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

Jaguar F-Type Coupé

Price: **from £51,235**
Driving appeal: ★★★★★
Image: ★★★★★
Space: ★★
Value: ★★★★★
Running costs: ★★★
How green?: ★★
Best rival: **Porsche 911**

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STUNNING: Grace with pace, is the gorgeous new Jaguar F-Type coupé the marque's most alluring model since the original 1960s E-Type coupé

Jaguar crowns F-Type success

THERE seems to be no taming Jaguar in its bid to leap back to the top of the motoring pile.

Last year, the British sporting marque unveiled the open-top F-Type two-seater, quickly hailed as the true successor to the legendary E-Type roadster.

Jaguar has now capitalised on this dazzling debut, as it did with the original E-Type half a century ago, by launching a sleek 'fixed head' or coupé version.

As with its illustrious forbear, linking the open-top and coupé designs is brilliantly executed and Jaguar dealers have been assaulted by a new wave of car fans keen to be first to own the revitalised brand's new stunner.

It seems the once-beleaguered and many-times-rescued marque can now do no wrong, having abandoned retro styling that was killing sales and adopting a brave new look – an attitude in tune with Jaguar founder Sir William Lyons when he built the company originally.

He would surely approve of the newcomer's style mix of aggression and grace.

The company itself describes the all-aluminium-bodied F-Type coupé as "the most dynamically capable, performance-focused sports car that Jaguar has ever produced".

Cheaper than its open-top sister's range, which starts at £58,520, the three-model coupé line-up (from £51,235) is headed by the 'R' performance flagship (£85,000), bringing

As with the 1960s E-Type, Jaguar has followed the stunning F-Type roadster with a no less eye-catching coupé

Jaguar's 5.0-litre supercharged V8 petrol engine into play and 550PS (542bhp) – good for 0-60mph in four seconds and an electronically-limited top speed of 186mph.

The other versions are the 'S' (£60,235) and standard model – though one hesitates to apply the label 'standard' to such an exotic car.

These two share Jaguar's free-revving 3.0-litre V6 supercharged petrol unit, with the S tapping into 380PS (375bhp) and the entry model 340PS (335bhp), allowing 0-60mph in 4.8/5.1 seconds and top speeds of 171/161mph respectively.

The car itself has the aggressive lines to match the performance levels but also neatly embodies the style that has made the F-Type roadster such a hit.

Enzo Ferrari – a creator of gorgeous cars himself – described the Jaguar E-Type as "the most beautiful car ever made".

You have to wonder what the

master would say of the E-Type's successor were he still alive.

The car's mix of great style and lightness with rigidity has been made possible by Jaguar's expertise in aluminium vehicle architecture. Jaguar says it is the most rigid production car it has ever built – no ordinary claim when one considers all the large saloons rather than sports cars the marque has built.

Perhaps it's no surprise, then, that the coupé is available with either an aluminium or panoramic glass roof – rigidity is identical regardless of which is fitted.

Pricing looks highly competitive against key German rivals like the Porsche 911, or smaller Cayman, and Jaguar has also revitalised its interior design: the F-Type's cabin is a stylish take on the modern 'techno' look now favoured on premium sporting cars but also has elements of the marque's craftsmanship heritage.

Of course, the sloping rear roof and tailgate means that there is a lot more space to take luggage with you than is offered by the roadster – a key reason so many people bought the E-Type fixed-head rather than the open-top model.

Along with a 'secret compartment' beneath the floor as well, the coupé's 400 litres of luggage capacity is twice that of its convertible sister.

Other view...

the Petrolhead

The F-Type roadster was gorgeous, but to create such a harmonious-looking coupé from that is genius, and it surely drives as well as it looks

She says

If I had the budget for either car, then I would go for the roadster, but I have to admit this is a lovely-looking coupé

the Eco-warrior

It's impossible to argue with the classy styling, but price, speed, performance and consumption of this order is, quite simply, indefensible



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FirstGEAR

Motoring news



New baby saloon

JAGUAR has confirmed that its new rival to compact executive cars like the BMW 3 Series, Audi A4 and Mercedes-Benz C-Class will be known as the XE.

Early drawings and mock-ups for this belated replacement for the unloved X-Type model – axed in 2009 – have been revealed and the car is expected to arrive next year.

It will be the first car in its segment to have a hi-tech aluminium monocoque body.

POCKET ROCKET: Renault is offering an affordable alternative to its flagship Clio Renaultsport, below; its sister, the Clio GT-Line 120 EDC, is shown above

Power in the Clio name

Clio's the name and mixing power and practicality is the game – the latter highlighted by two sporting models, tested here by **Steve Loader**

WHAT'S in a name? Everything for Renault, when the name is Clio.

The supermini inherited the crown of the famous Renault 5, adding greater lustre and, importantly, becoming the powerhouse model in the French marque's battle for sales.

But, like all great car dynasties, there have been good Clios and not so good Clios, though I'm betting the latest car will be remembered as one of the greats – especially now it has rapid and good-looking halo models to grab attention.

We've just driven the £19,995 Clio Renaultsport 200 Turbo EDC performance flagship and its more affordable 'pocket rocket' £17,395 Clio GT-Line TCe 120 EDC sister.

Both are impressive – and a mouthful to name – but while the Renaultsport does pretty much what it says on the tin the GT-Line is rather more interesting, especially as it became the first Renault to feature the brand's all-new direct-injection 1.2 TCe 120bhp turbocharged petrol unit.

This is yet another reminder of the prodigious outputs now being squeezed from relatively tiny petrol engines, delivering serious power when needed but mostly great economy and, importantly for younger drivers who would like the Clio Renaultsport but cannot afford the premiums, cheaper insurance.

GT-Line spec sits between the standard Clio line-up and the Renaultsport, bringing a high level of equipment and a notably tauter driving experience

Renault Clio GT-Line 120 EDC

Price:	£17,395
Driving appeal:	★★★★★
Image:	★★★★★
Space:	★★★★
Value:	★★★★
Running costs:	★★★★
Reliability:	★★★★
How green?:	★★★★
Road tax: £30/year (zero year one)	
Best rival:	Peugeot 208

Kent dealers

Motorline

Ashford	0845 129 4488
Canterbury	0845 129 4483
Maidstone	0845 129 2944

through 40 per cent stiffer dampers and 30 per cent stiffer chassis.

Curiously, though, Renault has chosen to market this car – and the Clio Renaultsport – only with a six-speed dual-clutch automatic gearbox, or what Renault calls its EDC (Efficient Dual Clutch) transmission.

It's a bit of a double-edged sword; on the one hand, it is great to leave in fully auto for tiresome stop-go city traffic or motorway queueing, but it

also feels a bit remote when you do want to press on, unless you whack the stick into manual and bring the well-placed paddle shifts into play.

Then there's the additional temptation to select Sport mode via the RS Drive selector on the centre console; this makes the engine and gearbox, chassis, steering and throttle more responsive.

The car corners with a flat stance and, if you keep the revs up, delivers a lot of fun for the money, feeling much quicker and more exciting than its 0-62mph in 9.9 seconds would suggest.

The other side of the coin is the car's official combined 54.3mpg economy figure and modest CO2 emissions of 120g/km, meaning £30-a-year road tax with exemption in year one.

Note also that none of this flexibility comes with any practical penalties; the ride is a little harder than a standard Clio for sure, but it shares the same good-looking five-door body – cleverly disguised by concealed rear door handles – with good cabin space and design, the big seven-inch infotainment touchscreen being a highlight.

Perhaps surprisingly, this last paragraph also applies to the fire-breathing Renaultsport, though this model's relatively expensive insurance and running costs ensure it will only be bought by the sort of enthusiast who views 'practicality' as a dirty word.

It features a 200bhp 1.6-litre turbo petrol engine, delivering 0-62mph in 6.7 seconds, the latter aided by the F1-style 'Launch 'Control' system for the perfect standing start.

This version also gets a version of RS Drive but one with an ultimate 'Race' option on top of the GT-Line's 'Normal' and 'Sport' modes and a consequent step up in responsiveness.

You will hardly use the bone-jarring Race option, of course, but it's nice to know it's available on top of rather more civilised Normal mode, backed by an average of about 40mpg.



X-Trail 'crossover'

NISSAN is openly referring to the sleeker-looking new X-Trail as a crossover rather than a light off-road model – as was its previous status.

As such, it fits into the Japanese marque's range as a bigger brother to the successful Qashqai, also taking over that car's offering of a seven-seat option.

A 'seven-up' format was available on the previous Qashqai but dropped for the new-generation car.

The latest X-Trail hits showrooms in July.



Type R for return

AFTER much speculation, carmaker Honda has unveiled a Civic Type R Concept.

With the Japanese marque heavily committed to green-power initiatives, it had been feared Honda might simply drop the rather contradictory Type R hot-hatch format altogether, but it has now committed to a 2015 launch.

The marketing campaign has also begun with the adoption of a strapline describing the Type R as the 'racing car for the road'.

PEUGEOT RCZ/CC

2012 (12) RCZ GT 200bhp finished in Pearl White with black leather interior/Onyx Black alloy wheels. Front/rear parking, climate control, auto lights/wipers, Bluetooth/USB **£17,995**
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2006 (06) 307CC S finished in Neysha Blue with Lama Leather interior. Air conditioning, parking sensors, alloys **£4,495**
2005 (05) 206CC Allure 1.6 finished in Moonstone Blue with Black Leather interior. Low mileage. Climate control, radio CD, alloys **£3,650**

PEUGEOT 107

2008 (58) 107 Kiss 3dr finished in Raven Black. High mileage hence **£2850**
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2010 (10) 107 Urban 5dr finished in Laser Red. Full history. Remote Locking, radio CD/MP3, Electric windows, ABS **£5,750**
2011 (11) 107 Urban 5dr finished in Laser Red. Full history. Remote Locking, radio CD/MP3, Electric windows, ABS **£5,850**
2011 (11) 107 Envoy 5dr finished in Forclas Blue. Just 7,700 miles, full history. Air conditioning, alloys, tinted windows **£5,950**
2012 (12) 107 Active 5dr finished in Carbon Grey. Just 4,200 miles, full history. Air conditioning, front fog lights **£6,495**
2012 (13) 107 Active 5dr finished in Zircon Grey. Just 2,200 miles, full history. Air conditioning, front fog lights **£6,995**
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2013 (13) 107 Allure 5dr

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- Air Conditioning
- Alloys



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2013 (13) 508 Allure HDi 140

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- Automatic headlights and wipers
- Parking sensors
- Open & Go' System



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2011 (11) 207 Envoy HDi 70 5dr finished in Bianca White. One owner, full history. Bluetooth/USB, alloys, air conditioning **£7,250**
2012 (62) 208 Active 1.0 VTi 5dr finished in Aluminium Silver. Very low mileage. Touch screen Bluetooth/USB, parking aid, air conditioning, alloys **£9,995**
2013 (13) 208 Allure 1.2 VTi 5dr finished in Rioja Red. Climate control, auto lights and wipers, electric pack, touch screen DAB/Bluetooth/USB **£11,995**
2013 (13) 208 Allure HDi 70 5dr finished in Rose Quartz. Climate control, auto lights and wipers, electric pack, touch screen DAB/Bluetooth/USB **£12,495**

PEUGEOT 308/3008

2011 (11) 3008 Sport HDi 112 finished in Babylon Red. Full history. Parking sensors, auto lights/wipers, Bluetooth/USB **£8,995**
2011 (11) 3008 Sport HDi 110 EGC finished in Thorium Grey. Low mileage, full history. Parking sensors, auto lights/wipers, Bluetooth/USB **£10,750**
2013 (13) 308 Active HDi (92) Navigation finished in Aluminium. Full colour satnav, Bluetooth/USB, parking sensors, folding mirrors, climate control, auto lights/wipers **£10,995**
2013 (13) 3008 Allure HDi (115) finished in Pearl White. Satellite Navigation, vision pack, panoramic glass roof, 'heads up' display **£15,495**

PEUGEOT 407/508/5008

2012 (12) 508SW Allure HDi 140 finished in Alpine Blue. Full colour satnav, Bluetooth/USB, auto lights/wipers, parking sensors, 'open&go' system, panoramic glass roof **£13,995**
2013 (13) 508 Allure HDi 140 finished in Alpine Blue. Full colour satnav, Bluetooth/USB, auto lights/wipers, parking sensors, 'open&go' system **£14,995**
2013 (13) 5008 Allure EGC finished in Shark Grey. Panoramic glass roof, Bluetooth/USB, parking sensors, auto lights/wipers, climate control **£15,495**

LCV

2012 (62) Boxer L1 H1 HDi 110 Professional finished in Aluminium Silver with ply lined interior. Bluetooth/USB, air conditioning, bulkhead **£9,950 (plus VAT)**
2011 (11) Partner Professional HDi 75 finished in Iron Grey. One owner, low mileage, full history. Side loading door, air conditioning, Bluetooth/USB, bulkhead **£7,495 (plus VAT)**
2010 (10) Partner Origin Professional HDi finished in Aluminium. One owner, full history, low mileage. Bulkhead, air conditioning, Bluetooth **£5,750 (plus VAT)**

OTHER MAKES

2003 (03) Citroen Berlingo Combi 1.4 finished in Silver. Low mileage **£3,250**
2006 (06) Saab 9-5 Vector Sport Diesel Auto 4dr finished in Metallic Grey with half leather trim. Low mileage. Climate control, alloy wheels **£5,495**
2008 (08) Nissan Note Tekna Auto 1.6 5dr finished in Blue. Low mileage **£5,750**
2006 (06) Suzuki Jimny JLX+ 1.3 Estate finished in metallic Blue. Just 17,800 miles, full history. 4WD (high and low ratio), detachable tow bar **£5,995**
2010 (60) Renault Grand Scenic Dyanmique TomTom (7 Seat) finished in Silver. Satnav, auto lights/wipers, air conditioning, radio/CD **£7,750**
2011 (11) Citroen DS3 D Sport HDi 110 finished in Red with black roof. One owner, full history. Bluetooth/USB **£8,995**

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St Martin's Emmaus Dover is part of an international charity providing opportunities for homeless and vulnerable people to rebuild their lives. We are looking for a dynamic and resourceful professional to manage the breadth and variety of this new post. Good business acumen, strong interpersonal skills to inspire and build a team, together with the energy and commitment to drive forward our strategic aims, would consolidate the sustainability of this community.

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The deadline for applications is Monday 7th April 2014, and interviews will be held on Wednesday 16th April 2014.

www.emmaus.org.uk

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Lourdes Community
 Residential Home Nursing require
Registered Nurses for Flexi Bank
 Apply in writing to
Mrs T Molloy, 225 Canterbury Road
Westgate on Sea, Kent, CT8 8LX
Informal enquiries 01843 833242
 Subject to enhanced DBS disclosure

DMS
 requires self-employed
Mortgage Arrears Field Agent
 in the local area. The successful applicant will be professional and have a financial services/mortgage related background
 Contact Alison Hogarth on 01635 517013 or apply online
www.dmsarrearssolutions.co.uk
 DMS operates an Equal Opportunities Policy



Bradstow School

Bradstow is a creative and unique residential school for children between the ages of 5 & 19. It is situated in 13 acres of parkland just a few hundred metres from the sandy beaches of Broadstairs. We seek to meet the needs of children and young people with autism and severe learning difficulties with associated behaviours that may be challenging. We have achieved national recognition for our developments in Communication and Behaviour Management.

DUE TO EXPANDING OUR PROVISION WE HAVE THE FOLLOWING VACANCIES:

HOUSEPARENTS – EXTENDED PROVISION

Working as part of the childcare teams, this role involves providing care and support to children and young people mornings, evenings and weekends being a child or young person's Keyworker and some management responsibility.
 £22,227 - £25,172 - 41 hours per week, (including late/early shifts and weekends) All Year Round

FEMALE WAKING NIGHT ATTENDANTS – EXTENDED PROVISION

To be responsible for the supervision and care of the children and young people at night.
 £22,954 - £25,582 (including ½ night allowance) - 36¼ hours per week, (nights including weekends) All Year Round
 Due to the nature of the personal care being provided, Section 7 (2) (a) of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975 applies.

FEMALE WAKING NIGHT ATTENDANTS

To be responsible for the supervision and care of the children and young people at night.
 £20,506 - £22,854 (including ½ night allowance) - 36¼ hours per week, (nights including weekends) Term Time Only – plus 2 weeks*
 Due to the nature of the personal care being provided, Section 7 (2) (a) of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975 applies.

FLEXIBANK TEAM SUPPORT WORKERS

To provide additional support a cover within either the classrooms or residences.
 Flexi-bank - £7.26 per hour – When required (up to 41 hours per week including split shifts and weekends)

*For these roles there will also be up to a maximum of two weeks for the school's respite care provision if required, for which extra payment would be paid.

For all posts we look for candidates who are mature, warm, creative and open to learning with a patient and caring attitude to deal sensitively with vulnerable children.

We are committed to sustainability and preserving the environment and therefore encourage applications by email, so for an application form and information pack please email personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk Or you may call 01843 608727 (24 hour recruitment answer machine).

Please note that CV's will not be considered.

The closing date for all applications is 5pm, Monday 31st March 2014.



www.bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk

Be part of our successful team

Field Sales Account Manager

Plus bonus potential

Here at Archant Kent we are looking for a Home based Field Sales Account Manager to support and increase business in our publications and online as we continue to grow.

We want ambitious people to join our successful sales teams and are looking for an IT-literate individual who is task focused with a good eye for detail, and a strong proven sales background. You must be able to communicate well both verbally and in writing.

If you think you have the talent we require, and you are ambitious, target driven and want to be part of our growth plans then we want to hear from you immediately.

Please note part-time hours will be considered.

To find out more: www.archant.co.uk/vacancies or email: employment@archant.co.uk

ARCHANT Kent on Sunday KENT LIFE



FULL TIME HORTICULTURALIST REQUIRED

Join a small team on a prospering horticultural unit based at a farm in West Kent, near Tunbridge Wells, growing soft-top fruit and veg for own farm shop and farmer's market. Some experience/basic qualifications required. Good people skills and driving licence required.

For more information please email:
michael@npf1.wanadoo.co.uk

Charlier Construction Ltd CARPENTERS

Qualified Carpenters required.
Must have sound working knowledge of trade and able to produce consistently high quality finish.
Applicants having own transport and CSCS card will have an advantage.

We are an equal opportunities employer.

Applications: Charlier Construction Ltd,
Ashford Road, Newingreen, Hythe, Kent, CT21 4JB
Tel: 01303 268211 Fax: 01303 268661

MOT Tester / Vehicle Technician Wanted for immediate start

We are looking to recruit an MOT Tester to join our busy family run company in Chatham.
You must be a fully qualified class 4 Smart Card holder. In addition, class 1,2,3 & 7 would be an advantage but not necessary.
You must have a current driving licence, be aged 21+ and you will need to have good customer service skills.

A CV will be required upon application.

43 hrs per week including alternate Saturdays which is a 1/2 day.

Salary £23,000 - £26,000 depending on experience

Please contact the office manager on
01634 406664

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AGY

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The Spencer Private Hospital is the independently owned and managed 22 bed private hospital situated on the QEQM Hospital site. We also have a 4 bed unit at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford. The continuing growth of our business has resulted in vacancies for the following staff:

Choose and Book Co-ordinator/Bookings Administrator

Full time (Maternity Cover)

£16473.37 per annum

Based in Dover

Closing date for applications Friday 28 March 2014

Qualifications: Maths and English (GCSE or equivalent)

2 years' experience working within an administrative environment

Word/Excel, IT skills, E-mail, Internet

(Previous applicants need not apply)

To discuss this opportunity or to arrange an informal visit please contact:

Amanda Stephen, Business Office Manager 01304 245958

For a job description and application form please contact:

Jo Wright, East Kent Medical Services Ltd, The Spencer Private Hospital

2nd Floor, Atina House, 5 Bench Street, Dover, Kent CT16 1JH

Telephone: 01304 245961 Fax: 01304 207320

E-mail: joanne.wright@spencerhospitals.com

Alternatively you can download an application form and job description from our website www.spencerprivatehospitals.com

Spencer Private Hospital is an equal opportunity employer.

These positions are subject to a Data & Barring Service Disclosure check.



Sales Manager

Located near Ashford, Kent, Palmstead Nurseries Ltd produces and supplies a large range of premium quality plants to the landscape and amenity markets. We currently have an exciting opportunity to join our progressive team as Sales Manager and to work within a dynamic, professional and successful business.

We are looking for a motivated, well organised and target driven individual to ensure continuing sales growth through creating and maintaining strong relations with suppliers and customers. The successful candidate will have a proven track record in sales, ideally gained in a similar industry, with the ability to exceed sales targets. Ideally you will have knowledge of the horticulture industry and be able to demonstrate drive, flair and commitment. What matters most is that you are keen, enthusiastic and capable with excellent communication, team leading and customer skills. In turn, you will receive training and development in a supportive and friendly environment.

To apply please download an Employment Application form from www.palmstead.co.uk/application or call (01233) 813340 to request a copy. Return by post to the address at the top of the form or alternatively email your form to opportunities@palmstead.co.uk, along with any questions you may have about the role. The closing date for applications is Wednesday 19 March with interviews beginning Monday 24 March, and a suggested start date of April/May 2014.

Teach English at Home

- Could you host and teach junior or adult students?
- Must have recognised TESOL or TEFL qualification
- High standard of accommodation required
- Teaching materials, full support and training workshop provided

For further information:
www.ilh.com
01227 722882



Teach English at Home

- Could you host and teach junior or adult students?
- Must have recognised TESOL or TEFL qualification
- High standard of accommodation required
- Teaching materials, full support and training workshop provided

For further information:
www.ilh.com
01227 722882



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We're committed to giving people more flexibility and control. By joining NHSP:Bank you'll gain access to shifts across Kent Trusts, giving you the best choice of available shifts, near you.

General Registered Nurses

£11.26 - £12.56 per hour.

'Days', 'Lates', 'Long Days' and 'Night' shift patterns available.

Registered Community Nurses

£11.71 - £12.30 per hour.

'Days' and 'Night' shift patterns are available.

Experience:

Six months relevant experience gained in the last two years.

Care Support Workers – General

£7.31 - £8.06 per hour.

'Earlies' and 'Late' shift patterns are available.

Locations:

Medway NHS Foundation Trust

Medway Community Healthcare CIC

East Kent Hospitals University NHS

Foundation Trust

Kent Community Health NHS Trust

Kent and Medway NHS Trust

To apply to join NHSP:Bank or to find out more visit: www.nhsprofessionals.nhs.uk/kent4 or call 07917 550413

Exciting Opportunity



Weekend Permanent Field Manager

10 HOURS OVER SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

You will need your own vehicle and full driving licence

£10.85 PER HOUR

A vacancy has arisen locally for a Weekend Field Manager to manage our field operational areas. Hermes is the UK's largest home delivery courier network handling more than 190 million collections and deliveries per annum. Hermes works with leading high street, direct catalogue and online retailers in the UK including Next Directory, QVC, Lakeland Limited and ASOS to name a few.

Main responsibilities

- Working in a remote, fast paced and challenging environment, where you will be a productive member of the regional team, assisting in additional tasks as required.
- Ensuring total courier coverage in your area.
- Monitoring SLAs and key performance.
- Training of self-employed couriers.

You will need:

- Driving Licence and car with an MOT for weekend use. Hermes will provide your business insurance.
- Previous people management experience.
- Good level of IT skills MS Excel Word and PowerPoint.
- The ability to present and articulate information.
- You must be highly self-motivated with the ability to work on your own initiative and prioritise your workload.

If you feel you have what it takes to succeed in this demanding environment, then please apply via our recruitment website by clicking on the link below

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PLANNING



TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 PLANNING APPLICATIONS LISTED BUILDING CONSENTS CONSERVATION AREA CONSENTS

- DOV/13/00945** Reserved matters application for residential development of 230 dwellings and public open space, with access from Hancocks Field, Hunters Walk, and Hyton Drive, including roads, cycle paths, footpaths, ancillary works incorporating landscaping, a pond, and alterations to existing public rights of way (landscaping, appearance, layout and scale) (amended plans and layout) **Land between Deal & Sholden, Church Lane, Sholden, Deal** **CMRW**
- DOV/13/01064** Erection of two storey extension, link extension, conversion of garage to habitable room and associated alterations (existing extension to be demolished) (amended plans) **Stone Hall Farm, The Street, East Stourmouth, Canterbury, CT3 1HY** **LBC**
- DOV/14/00193** Erection of an attached dwelling **Land rear of, 17 London Road, Dover, CT16 2LA** **CON**
- DOV/14/00203** The erection of a first floor extension to facilitate the change of use to a single residential dwelling **Former Pharos Insurance Offices, 17 London Road, Dover, CT17 0ST** **CON**
- DOV/14/00161** Conversion of existing barn into two units of holiday accommodation and erection of office building to replace existing outbuilding **Willow House & Land Adjoining, Ratling Road, Aylesham, CT3 3HL** **CAF**
- DOV/13/00830** Erection of an agricultural storage building (amended location) **New Barn Farm & Access, The Street, East Stourmouth, Canterbury, CT3 1HX** **SLB**
- DOV/13/01063** Erection of two storey extension, link extension, conversion of garage to habitable room and associated alterations (existing extension to be demolished) (amended plans and details) **Stone Hall Farm, The Street, East Stourmouth, Canterbury, CT3 1HY** **LBC**
- DOV/14/00040** Part retrospective application for conversion of integral store rooms to annex, alterations to doors and windows, erection of garage, porch extension and verandah, provision of disabled access, alteration of ground level, new waste water treatment system, new oil tank, increase in height of chimneys **Barton Farm, Westmarsh, Ash, CT3 2LW** **SLB**
- DOV/14/00187** Installation of replacement windows, insertion of rooflight, together with the provision of mezzanine floor **Flat 3, Harefield House, 20 The Beach, Walmer, CT14 7HE** **CON**
- DOV/14/00176** Erection of two dwellings, garaging facilities and associated works (existing studio, outbuildings and 1 and 2 hope bay to be demolished) **1 & 2 Hope Bay & Hope Bay Studios, The Leas, Kingsdown, Deal** **ARW**

Reason for Advert Codes:-

ARW - Affects a Public Right of Way **SLB** - To affect the setting of a Listed Building **CON** - Within Conservation Area **LBC** - The proposal affects a Listed Building **CMRW** - Contrary to Development Plan, Major Development & affects a Public Right of Way **CAF** - The proposal affects a Conservation Area

Some applications are not publicised in this list. All applications may be inspected at the Council Offices, White Cliffs Business Park, Dover, to which address any representations (to include a postal address) should be sent **within 21 days** marked "for the attention of Planning". Applications may also be viewed, and comments on applications may be made on our website www.dover.gov.uk/planning or at Dover Gateway, 71 Castle Street, Dover, Deal Library or the Area Office, The Guildhall, Sandwich.

Failure to meet the above deadline may jeopardise the chances of representations being considered. Any representations received may be made available for inspection by the public, and may be copied to others, including the secretary of state and the applicant if there is an appeal against the council's decision. Representations will not be acknowledged until an application has been determined.

Please note that the Council does not accept any responsibility for any incomplete or inaccurate description of any application.

Planning applications



Notice under Article 13 of the Town & Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2010
Notice under Article 8 of the Town & Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995
Notice under Section 67 and/or Section 73 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
Notice under Regulation 5 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Regulations 1990
Notice under Regulation 5A of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the council:

- CA/12/00158/FUL:** The Canterbury Steiner School, Perry Court, Garlinge Green, Chatham, CT4 5RU Redevelopment of school to provide 15 dwellings including alterations to listed buildings. **Applicant: The Canterbury Steiner School** Reason: Major and affects setting of a listed building.
- CA/14/00311/FUL:** 32 Oxford Street, Whitstable Conversion of the back of the commercial unit into a self contained studio flat. **Applicant: Mr O'Reilly** Reason: Conservation area.
- CA/14/00318/FUL:** Ivy Lodge, Hardres Court Road, Lower Hardres, CT4 5NP First-floor extension. **Applicant: Mr Donald** Reason: Conservation area.
- CA/14/00321/FUL:** 30 Hollow Lane, Canterbury, CT1 3SA Proposed extension of ground floor conservatory area. **Applicant: Mr Sinan** Reason: Conservation area.
- CA/14/00378/FUL:** Land adjoining Robins, Montague Street, Herne Bay, CT6 8TW Erection of new two-bedroom dwelling. **Applicant: Mr Holden** Reason: Conservation area.
- CA/14/00381/FUL:** Turning Point, 63 Whitstable Road, Canterbury, CT2 8DG Change of use of premises offering residential care (Use Class C2) to a single dwellinghouse (Use Class C3). **Applicant: Mr Kumar** Reason: Conservation area.
- CA/14/00382/FUL:** 72 St Dunstons Street, Canterbury, CT2 8BL Change of use from offices (Use Class B1) to medical centre (Use Class D1) with ancillary offices/storage. **Applicant: J D Health Care Ltd (London Women's Clinic)** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.
- CA/14/00383/LB:** 72 St Dunstons Street, Canterbury, CT2 8BL Internal alterations in connection with change of use from offices (Use Class B1) to medical centre (Use Class D1) with ancillary offices/storage comprising: creation of new reception area, ground floor WC, first floor WC and staff room and 2nd floor WC. **Applicant: J D Health Care Ltd (London Women's Clinic)** Reason: Work to a listed building.
- CA/14/00394/FUL:** Unit, 1-2 Marlowe Arcade, Canterbury, CT1 2TE Installation of a new gate to provide out of hours security to a recessed exit from the Primark store on Marlowe Arcade. **Applicant: Primark Stores** Reason: Conservation area.
- CA/14/00404/LB:** Tetherings, Mystole Lane, Mystole, Chatham, CT4 7DB External alterations to fenestration in rear elevation, introduction of rooflight to single-storey monopitch roof and removal of chimney stack and associated internal alterations. **Applicant: Johnathan T Barber** Reason: Work to a listed building.
- CA/14/00405/FUL:** 14 School Lane, Blean, CT2 9JA Two-storey side and rear extension of dwelling and replacement of detached garage. **Applicant: Mr and Mrs Crowley** Reason: Conservation area.
- CA/14/00429/FUL:** Egerton House, Rectory Lane, Barham, CT4 6PD Replacement of garage with single-storey self contained residential accommodation. **Applicant: Mr C Trapp** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.
- CA/14/00448/FUL:** 1 Summer Hill, Harbledown, CT2 8NH Demolition of 20th Century single-storey garage and erection of detached studio as ancillary accommodation to main house. **Applicant: Mr Cedric Delves** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.
- CA/14/00452/LB:** 17 Dane John, Canterbury, CT1 2QU Proposed alterations and extension to existing coal shed and for the installation of a new boiler flue terminal in the rear elevation. **Applicant: Mr and Mrs Walton** Reason: Work to a listed building.
- CA/14/00460/FUL:** Iydyene, Wingham Well Lane, Ickham, CT3 1NN Two-storey side and single-storey rear extension (proposed) and installation of a driveway (retrospective). **Applicant: Mr and Mrs Hadlow** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.
- CA/14/00468/FUL:** 46 Gordon Road, Herne Bay, CT6 5QT New white uPVC box sash windows to front of house. **Applicant: Mr D Holmes** Reason: Conservation area.

Any representations should be submitted via public access on the planning pages of the website www.canterbury.gov.uk/dc to arrive on or before Monday 7 April 2014.

The weekly list of applications can be viewed on our website at www.canterbury.gov.uk/dc

Ian Brown, Head of Planning and Regeneration
Friday 14 March 2014



TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

Swale Borough Council as Local Planning Authority has received the following applications which are being advertised to ascertain the views of persons living near the sites and other interested parties. The proposed developments relate to one or more of the following:

- The site of the application is within/affecting a designated Conservation Area (Section 73) of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.
- The proposed development may affect the Listed Building or it's setting.
- The application is for a Major Development.
- The application would affect a right of way to which Part III of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) applies.
- This application may be of wider public interest.

REPRESENTATIONS IN RESPECT OF THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS MUST BE MADE BY 31 MARCH 2014

SW/14/0065: Unit substation of 16 dwellings and associated parking, landscaping and engineering works. 16 Units were previously consented under application SW/07/1232 - Parcel E, East Hall Farm, Eves Drive, SITTINGBOURNE; **REASON 3**

SW/14/0181: Pitched roof single storey front & side extension - 1 Burntwick Drive, LOWER HALSTOW; **REASON 4**

SW/14/0206: To demolish and rebuild the existing tractor shed, stables, machinery & hay store facility at 'Greypens Farm' - Greypens Farm, Elmley Road, MINSTER; **REASON 4**

SW/14/0219 & SW/14/0243: Extension to existing house to create bedroom accommodation for elderly persons - Forge Farmhouse, Staple Street, HERNHILL; **REASONS 1 & 2**

SW/14/0224: Solar farm, comprising the erection of solar arrays of photovoltaic panels, inverter and transformer sheds, fencing, site storage cabin, combined DNO and EPC switchgear housing, internal gravel access road, and associated equipment - Land North and West of Tonge Corner Farm, Tonge Corner Road, TONGE; **REASONS 3 & 6**

SW/14/0238 & SW/14/0251: Conversion of outbuilding to residential annex - 88 High Street, Milton Regis, SITTINGBOURNE; **REASONS 1 & 2**

Particulars of the proposal(s) can be obtained from Planning Services, Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, where copies of the applications and all documents submitted with them may be inspected during office hours; any representations should be made in writing to this address.

James Freeman
Head of Planning



THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2010

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the Council:

Y14/0179/SH# - 30 High Street New Romney Kent TN28 8BZ - Removal/variation of condition 2 of planning permission Y05/0209/SH for the change of use from florist (Class A1) to snack bar/tea room (Class A3) to allow baking to take place on the premises

Y14/0221/SH - The Dukes Head 9 Dymchurch Road Hythe Kent CT21 6JB - Change of use and conversion from a public house into 3 dwellings, together with conversion of existing barn to a single dwelling and erection of a two storey block of 4 self contained flats (re-submission of planning application Y12/1037/SH).

Y14/0186/SH - 39 Grimston Avenue Folkestone Kent CT20 2QD - Crown reduction of a Bay tree situated within a conservation area comprising the reduction in height by 5 metres and the reduction of laterals by 3 metres

Y14/0142/SH - Neale Cottage 1 Old School Mews Sandgate Hill Sandgate Folkestone Kent - Listed building consent for repointing of exterior ragstone walls.

Y14/0222/SH - The Dukes Head 9 Dymchurch Road Hythe Kent CT21 6JB - Listed building consent for alterations to a public house associated with conversion into 3 dwellings (re-submission of planning application Y12/1038/SH).

Y14/0239/SH† - Willow Down Dental Street Hythe Kent CT21 5LH - Crown reduction back to previous points of a Willow tree situated within a conservation area.

Any representations should be made in writing to the Head of Planning, Shepway District Council, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 2QY or emailed to planning@shepway.gov.uk. Comments should be made in writing within 21 days from the date of publication. It should be noted that any representations received will be made available for public inspection.

Some applications can be viewed at other locations in addition to the Civic Centre, Folkestone. The applications are marked as follows:

- The One Stop Shop, Magpies, Church Approach, New Romney

† - Hythe Town Council Offices, Stade Street, Hythe

Applications can be viewed and comments made online at <http://searchplanapps.shepway.gov.uk/online-applications/>.

The applications marked (*) do not accord with the provisions of the development plan in force in the area in which the land to which the application relates is situated.

C Lewis, Head of Planning
Shepway District Council

Do not gamble on people seeing
your public notices,
call the Kent Public Notice
team on

01303 817056

To place your notice here, call the Kent Public Notice team on 01303 817056

PLANNING

Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

- 14/00639/HOUSE** **Broomhill Dingledean, Benenden**
- Construction of a Ha Ha on southern boundary of garden(LB)
- 14/00538/FULL** **Unit 1 Bridge Farm, Bidborough**
- Front extension to existing office including re-roofing and re-cladding of existing office together with new ramp and steps (LB)
- 14/00271/FULL** **OS Plot 8200 Badsell Road, Capel**
- Development of 22.3ha solar photovoltaic park on land 120m south of village, with attendant equipment and infrastructure (EIA) (MAJOR)
- 14/00393/HOUSE** **Branden Biddenden Road, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**
- Conversion of oast roundel to provide ancillary accommodation, insertion of additional window at ground floor level on east elevation, new metal flue (LB)
- 14/00394/LBC** **Branden Biddenden Road, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**
- Listed Building Consent: Conversion of oast roundel to provide ancillary accommodation, including reroofing; insulation; new lead apex capping; repointing external walls; new window on the east elevation at ground floor level; replacement of existing windows; underpinning of existing brickwork; new waterproofed and insulated ground floor construction; new staircase; construction of shower room; insulation of wood burning stove and metal flue; new flooring (LB)
- 14/00397/LBC** **Branden Biddenden Road, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**
- Listed Building Consent: Single-storey extension to south elevation; replace flat roof over existing single-storey extension with lead; removal of three chimneys; replacement of existing windows; removal of internal walls and doors; removal of existing timber stair together with newel post supports and construct floor over to provide storage at first floor level; renovate existing metal windows; reconfiguration of internal layout forming new kitchen and utility room; remove internal wall between dining room and hallway; removal of internal walls and cupboards at first floor level; new partition walls at ground, first and second floor levels; removal of fire places (LB)
- 14/00582/FULL** **Cherrybrook Farm Golford Road, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**
- Conversion of barn into dwelling, new detached garage, vehicular access and parking area (LB)
- 14/00591/LBC** **Cherrybrook Farm Golford Road, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**
- Listed Building Consent: Conversion of redundant barn into residential use (LB)
- 14/00556/HOUSE** **Three Chimneys Oast Bedgebury Road, Goudhurst**
- Two bay garage and store (LB)
- 14/00608/HOUSE** **Rams Hill Maidstone Road, Horsmonden**
- Replace existing kennel with outbuilding comprising kennel and store (LB)
- 14/00546/LBC** **1 Down Farm Oasts The Down, Lamberhurst**
- Listed Building Consent - Replace existing domestic type front door with agricultural type front door (LB)
- 14/00613/HOUSE** **28A Cambridge Street Royal Tunbridge Wells, Park**
- Proposed dormer to main roof (CA)
- 14/00649/HOUSE** **The Coach House 5 Camden Hill, Park**
- Minor Material Amendment in relation to 13/01705/HOUSE: Detached garden annexe - Soil pipe and extract vent have been installed which were not on the approved drawings (CA)
- 14/00657/FULL** **AXA PPP Healthcare Limited International House, Park**
- Minor Material Amendment in relation to TW/12/03078/FULM.J: Demolition of link-detached single storey building. Erection of a 3 storey linked extension to side (north) elevation of the main building to create additional office floor space and the erection of a single storey building to the rear to create decked car parking spaces, with the addition of car parking spaces and landscaping - removal of decked parking area and ramp and alterations to parking layout (MAJOR) (CA) (DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of way (CA) Affecting A Conservation Area (LB) Affecting A Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.
- You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.
- You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.
- James Freeman
Head of Planning Services, Tunbridge Wells Borough Council
Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS
- Dated: 15 March 2014



THE MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL Town and Country Planning Act Notice of Applications

- MA/14/0070/S** - WIERTON HALL FARM COTTAGE, WIERTON ROAD, BOUGHTON MONCHELSEA, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 4JW - Alterations to windows and new entrance porch. **Reason: 3**
- MA/14/0182/N** - APARTMENT 6, RUMWOOD COURT, SUTTON ROAD, LANGLEY, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 3NN - Listed building consent for the removal of non-load bearing partition wall. **Reason: 3**
- MA/14/0185/N** - CYGNET COTTAGES, SANDWAY ROAD, LENHAM, KENT - Proposed new single storey dwelling. **Reason: 9**
- MA/14/0231/S** - HENHURST FARM SHOP, HENHURST FARM, PINNOCK LANE, STAPLEHURST, TONBRIDGE, KENT, TN12 0HD - Extension to farm shop permitted under MA/01/0553. **Reason: 7, 10**
- MA/14/0237/S** - FORGE HOUSE AND MAXTEDS, HIGH STREET, STAPLEHURST, KENT, TN12 0AG - Refurbishment, extensions and alterations. **Reason: 2**
- MA/14/0286/N** - CHAPEL MILL FARM, EAST LENHAM ROAD, LENHAM, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 2BJ - Residential annexe for use by applicants in-laws. **Reason: 1**
- MA/14/0308/N** - HAZLITT THEATRE, EARL STREET, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 1PL - Listed building consent for the attachment of new purple backing to 2no existing fascia signs to the front elevation. **Reason: 3**
- MA/14/0309/N** - THE VINE, RECTORY LANE, HARRIETSHAM, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 1HP - Erection of new porch, removal of existing storage unit, and erection of new detached double garage with store. **Reason: 2**
- MA/14/0319/S** - LINTON PARK, HEATH ROAD, LINTON, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 4AB - An application for planning permission for the removal of a defective undercroft structure to courtyard (east) side, and replacement with a ragstone retaining wall and balustrading to match existing. **Reason: 1**
- MA/14/0320/S** - LINTON PARK, HEATH ROAD, LINTON, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 4AB - An application for listed building consent for the removal of a defective undercroft structure to courtyard (east) side, and replacement with a ragstone retaining wall and balustrading to match existing. **Reason: 3**
- Reasons for advertisement key:**
1 - Applications affects the setting of a Listed Building.
2 - Application affects the setting of a Conservation Area.
3 - Application is for Listed Building Consent.
7 - Application affects a Public Right of Way.
9 - Application does not accord with the Local Plan.
10 - Application is of general Public Interest.



Copies of applications listed can be viewed on our website www.maidstone.gov.uk or at Maidstone Gateway, Maidstone (Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5.30pm, and Saturday 9am to 1pm). Any representations should be made in writing to me by no later than **30th March 2014**, quoting the application number.

Rob Jarman, Head of Development Management, Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JQ. **Dated:** 16th March 2014

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY & VILLAGE GREENS

PROW – IN THE BOROUGH OF ASHFORD

NOTICE OF THE INTENTION TO MAKE AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATH AU81 IN ASHFORD

PUBLIC FOOTPATH AU81 (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2014 ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council intends to temporarily close Public Footpath AU81, between its junction with North Street and its junction with Hardinge Road from the 31st March 2014.

The path will be closed for a maximum of six months, although it is expected that it will reopen sooner.

The path is to be closed because works are planned near it and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

The alternative route is via North Street and Hardinge Road and will be signed for the duration of the closure.

For detailed enquiries please contact Faye Fayers

Contact Centre no. 03000 417171

Or for further details on temporary closures on the Rights of Way network see:

http://www.kent.gov.uk/environment_and_planning/countryside_access/traffic_regulation_orders.aspx

PROW – IN THE BOROUGH OF MAIDSTONE

NOTICE OF THE INTENTION TO MAKE AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATH KMX14 IN MAIDSTONE

PUBLIC FOOTPATH KMX14 (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2014 ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council has made an Order the effect of which is to temporarily close Public Footpath KMX14, between Station Road and Buckland Hill (Maidstone East and Maidstone Barracks stations) from the 7 April 2014.

The path will be initially closed for a period of two weeks to enable resurfacing and improvement work to be completed. There may be further short periods of closure associated with improvement work to the High Level Bridge up until 1 October 2014, although these will be kept to a minimum to avoid disruption to the public.

The alternative route is via Station Road, St Faiths Street, Fairmeadow and St Peters Street .

For detailed enquiries please contact Graham Rusling

Contact Centre no. 03000 417171

Or for further details on temporary closures on the Rights of Way network see:

http://www.kent.gov.uk/environment_and_planning/countryside_access/traffic_regulation_orders.aspx

NOTICE OF CONFIRMATION OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER HIGHWAYS ACT 1980 WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (PUBLIC FOOTPATH KM4 (PART) TESTON)

PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION AND DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT MODIFICATION ORDER 2013

On 3rd March 2014 The Kent County Council confirmed the above Order under Section 119 of the Highways Act 1980.

The effect of that Order as confirmed is to divert the entire width of that length of public footpath KM4 which commences from NGR TQ 7084 5314 (Point A) on the Order plan and runs in a southerly direction adjacent to the riverbank for a distance of 54 metres to NGR TQ 7083 5308 (Point B) and will add a new length of public footpath numbered KM4 with a width of 2 metres, which commences from the aforementioned Point A, and runs in a south westerly and then south easterly direction for 55 metres to the aforementioned (Point B).

All directions general, all distances approximate.

A copy of the Order as confirmed and the Order Map have been placed and may be seen free of charge at the Offices of Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, Kings Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 6JQ or

at the Kent County Council, Public Rights of Way & Access Service, Invicta House, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX. Copies of the Order and Map may be purchased there at the price of £5.

The Order comes into force on 31st March 2014, but if a person aggrieved by the Order wants to question its validity, or that of any provision contained in it, on the ground that it is not within the powers of the Highways Act 1980, as amended, or on the ground that any requirement of the Act, as amended, or of any regulation made under the Act which has not been complied with in relation to the Order, he or she may under Paragraph 2 of Schedule 2 to the Act as applied by Paragraph 5 of Schedule 6 to the Act, within 6 weeks from the 16th March 2014, make an application to the High Court.

PROW – IN THE DISTRICT OF THANET

NOTICE OF THE MAKING OF AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATH TE37 IN THE PARISH OF MINSTER

PUBLIC FOOTPATH TE37 (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2014 ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council has made an Order the effect of which is to temporarily close Public Footpath TE37, between its junction with Durlock and Church Street and its junction with Public Footpath TE40 from the 14th March 2014.

The path will be closed for a maximum of six months, although it is expected that it will reopen before April 2014.

The path is closed because maintenance and upgrading works to the rail crossing are to be carried out and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

The alternative route is via Public Footpath TE40 and will be signed for the duration of the closure.

For detailed enquiries please contact Michael Ellis

Contact Centre no. 03000 417171

Or for further details on temporary closures on the Rights of Way network see:

http://www.kent.gov.uk/environment_and_planning/countryside_access/traffic_regulation_orders.aspx

PROW – IN THE BOROUGH OF TONBRIDGE AND MALLING

NOTICE OF THE INTENTION TO MAKE AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATH MU30 IN TONBRIDGE

PUBLIC FOOTPATH MU30 (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2014 ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council intends to temporarily close Public Footpath MU30 (River Walk), between its junction with New Warf Road and its junction with High Street from the 31st March 2014.

The path will be closed for a maximum of six months.

The path is to be closed because flood wall repairs works are planned near it and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

The alternative route is via New Warf Road and Tonbridge High Street and will be signed for the duration of the closure.

For detailed enquiries please contact Michele Snoding

Contact Centre no. 03000 417171

Or for further details on temporary closures on the Rights of Way network see:

http://www.kent.gov.uk/environment_and_planning/countryside_access/traffic_regulation_orders.aspx

Public Rights of Way and Access Service
Kent County Council
Invicta House
County Hall
Maidstone
Kent
ME14 1XX

Dated: 16th March 2014

For further information, please contact
Kent Public Rights of Way and Access Service,
on 03000 417171 (local rate) Mon-Fri 9am-5pm
or visit www.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccess



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www.kentnews.co.uk

HIGHWAYS – ASHFORD AREA

**CHEESEMAN'S GREEN LANE, ASHFORD
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2014
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**

To allow safe access to overhead phone network for cabling works, Kent County Council has made an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of Cheesemans Green Lane, Ashford.

Cheesemans Green Lane will be closed between the junctions with Highfield Lane and South Stour Road. Off-peak closures are planned to commence from 18 March 2014 for up to 3 days, between 09:30 hours and 15:30 hours each day.

The alternative route is via Highfield Lane Kingsford Street, Blind Lane, Flood Street and South Stour Road.

**EGERTON ROAD, PLUCKLEY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2014****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**

Because of works to provide a new water connection, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of Egerton Road, Pluckley.

Egerton Road will be closed in the vicinity of Prebbles Hill.

A closure is planned to commence from Saturday 5 April 2014 at 09:30 hours through until Sunday 6 April at 17:00 hours.

The alternative through route is via Pivington Lane, Hunger Hatch Lane, Pluckley Road, Smarden Road and Egerton Road.

Access remains from either direction up to where Egerton Road is closed, but there will be no through access during these works.

**THE PINNOCK, PLUCKLEY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2014****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**

Because of water mains replacement works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of The Pinnock, Pluckley.

The Pinnock will be closed between the junctions with Smarden Road and Rose Farm Road.

A closure is planned to commence from 1 April 2014 with estimated completion by 23 May 2014.

The alternative route is via Smarden Road and Rose Farm Road.

Due to the nature of these works, it will not be possible to re-open the road outside the working hours.

**POUND LANE, SMEETH (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2014****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**

Because of excavations in the carriageway to install an electricity cable, Kent County Council has made an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of Pound Lane, Smeeth.

A closure is planned to commence from 17 March 2014 for up to 5 days.

Pound Lane will be closed outside Warren Cottage, to the north east of the junction with Plain Road. There is access from either direction up to where the road is closed, but no through access.

The alternative route is via Plain Road and Canterbury Road.

Due to the nature of the works, it will not be possible to re-open the road outside the working hours.

HIGHWAYS – CANTERBURY AREA

**BROAD OAK LEVEL CROSSING, STURRY (PROHIBITION
OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER MARCH 2014****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**

Because of level crossing maintenance and repair works, Kent County Council has made an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on Broad Oak Level Crossing, Sturry.

Broad Oak Road, Sturry will be closed at Broad Oak Level Crossing

A closure is planned to commence from Sunday 23 March 2014 at 08:00 hours through until Monday 24 March at 04:00hrs.

The alternative route is via Vauxhall Road, A28 Sturry Road, A28 Mill Road, A291 Sturry Hill, Sweeneygate and Shalloak Road.

**EVERSLEIGH RISE, WHITSTABLE
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2014****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**

Because of works to provide sewerage services to a new development, Kent County Council has made an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of Eversleigh Rise, Whitstable.

A closure is planned to commence from 17 March 2014 for up to 3 weeks.

Eversleigh Rise will be closed in the vicinity of numbers 93-99.

Access for properties 101-125 will be via Golden Hill,

with the temporary removal of the bollards that normally prevent access.

**FAVERSHAM ROAD, SEASALTER
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2014
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**

To allow repairs to the railway bridge to be safely carried out, Kent County Council has made an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of Faversham Road, Seasalter.

Overnight closures are planned to commence from 17 March 2014 for up to 2 nights, from 21:30 hours through until 05:30 hours each night.

Faversham Road will be closed in the vicinity of the railway bridge, with access from either direction up to the point of closure, but no through access.

The alternative routes are

Westbound via Seasalter Lane, A299 Thanet Way, Staple Street, Staple Street Road, Head Hill, Head Hill Road and Seasalter Road

Eastbound via Seasalter Road, Head Hill Road, Head Hill, Whitstable Road, A299 Thanet Way, A2990 (Old) Thanet Way, B2205 Borstal Hill, Joy Lane and Faversham Road.

Due to the nature of the works, it will not be possible to re-open the road outside the working hours.

**ST STEPHEN'S LEVEL CROSSING, CANTERBURY
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING)
TEMPORARY ORDER MARCH 2014****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**

To allow level crossing maintenance works to be safely carried out, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on St Stephen's Level Crossing, Canterbury, as shown below.

St Stephen's Road will be closed in the vicinity of the level crossing.

Closures are planned as follows

Monday 17 March 2014 at 23:00 hours through until 04:30 hours

Sunday 23 March 2014 at 01:00 hours through until Monday 24 March at 04:30 hours

The alternative route is via St Stephen's Road, Station Road West, St Dunstan's Street, Forty Acres Road, Beaconsfield Road, St Stephen's Hill and St Stephen's Green.

The alternative pedestrian route is via St Stephen's Court, St Stephen's Path, Station Road West and St Stephen's Road

**VARIOUS ROADS, HERNE BAY (HERNE BAY MARKET)
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2014
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**

Because of works in connection with the re-location of Herne Bay Market, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on sections of certain roads in Herne Bay, on or after 31 March 2014.

The roads affected and alternative routes are as shown below. Only one road will be closed at any one time.

BANK STREET will be closed in phases on or after 31 March, between the junctions with High Street and Mortimer Street (possibly extending to Charles Street)

The alternative route is via High Street, Canterbury Road and Mortimer Street

WILLIAM STREET will be closed between the junctions with High Street and Mortimer Street

The alternative route is via High Street, Canterbury Road, Central Parade and William Street

MORTIMER STREET will be closed between the junctions with William Street and Bank Street

The alternative route is via William Street, Central Parade, Canterbury Road, Charles Street and Bank Street.

The exact dates of the William Street and Mortimer Street closures depend on progress and weather conditions, and will be notified locally and signposted on site.

The one-way traffic orders in respect of Bank Street, William Street and William Street may be suspended as and when required, to allow essential access, as indicated by signage on site.

Due to the nature of these works, it will not be possible to re-open the roads outside the working hours.

HIGHWAYS – GRAVESHAM AREA

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS,
BOROUGH OF GRAVESHAM)
(PROHIBITION OF STOPPING OUTSIDE SCHOOLS)
(AMENDMENT NO 1) ORDER 2004**

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL proposes to make the above named Order under sections 1(i), 4(1) to (3), 3(2), 4(1) and (2), 32(1), 35(1), 45, 46, 49 and 53 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the Chief Officer of Police in accordance with Paragraph 20 of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The effect of the Order will be (a) to revoke the current restrictions that apply in Dover Road, Northfleet and (b) prohibit stopping outside St Botolph's Church of England Primary School between 8.00am and 9.30am or

between 2.30pm and 4.00pm on Mondays to Fridays at the following locations:-

DOVER ROAD, NORTHFLEET

- On the northern side from a point 26.59m east of the property boundary of 100 and 102 Dover Road for a distance of 37.56 metres eastwards; and
- On the northern side from a point 64.25 metres east of the property boundary of 100 and 102 Dover Road for a distance of 37.56 metres eastwards.

Full details are contained in the draft Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of reasons for proposing to make the Order may be examined during normal office hours at Kent County Council, Ashford Highway Depot, Javelin Way, Ashford, Kent, TN24 8AD and at County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XQ.

If you wish to offer support for or object to the proposed Order you should send the grounds in writing to Traffic Schemes Team, Kent County Council Highways and Transportation, Ashford Highway Depot, 4 Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial Estate, ASHFORD, TN24 8AD or by email to TRO@kent.gov.uk by noon on 7 April 2014.

HIGHWAYS – MAIDSTONE AREA

**REDWALL LANE, LINTON/HUNTON
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2014
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**

Because it is necessary to replace 1400m of drinking water main and related services, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Redwall Lane, Linton/Hunton, on or after 1 April 2014 for up to 5 months or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from Lacey's Lane to George Street.

The alternative route is via A229 Linton Hill, B2163 Heath Road, Upper Hunton Hill, Hunton Hill and East Street.

**RUNHAM LANE, LENHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2014****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**

Because it is necessary to replace a telegraph pole, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Runham Lane, Lenham, on or after 17 March 2014 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed outside "The Oast House".

The alternative route is via Sandway Road, Headcorn Road and Lenham Road.

**TERRACE ROAD, MAIDSTONE
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2014
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**

Because it is necessary to access an underground structure and cabling for a new fibre connection, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic turning right from Terrace Road on to A20 London Road on or after 17 March 2014 for up to 2 nights between 23:30hrs and 05:00hrs or until the works have been completed.

The alternative route is via A20 London Road northbound, round the 20/20 roundabout and southbound A20 London Road.

**VARIOUS ROADS, MAIDSTONE (RESURFACING)
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING & SUSPENSION OF WEIGHT
RESTRICTION) TEMPORARY ORDER 2014****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**

To allow a programme of carriageway resurfacing works to be carried out, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to restrict traffic on various roads in Maidstone, as shown below.

The Order will become effective on or after 6th April 2014 for up to 2 weeks between 21.00hrs and 05.00hrs, or until the works have been completed.

SCHEDULE

Running Horse Roundabout, Boxley

The full gyratory of the roundabout will be closed. Diversion via A229 Chatham Road/Royal Engineers Road/Fairmeadow

Forstal Road, Boxley

Closed from The Running Horse Roundabout for 100 metres

Diversion via Forstal Road, Station Road, Hall Road, A20 London Road, A229 Fairmeadow/Royal Engineers Road/Chatham Road

Sandling Lane, Boxley

Closed from Boarley Lane to A229 Cobtree Roundabout
Diversion via Sandling Lane and Penenden Heath Road

A229 Chatham Road, Boxley

Closed from the exit slip of the roundabout for its entire length

Diversion via A229 Blue Bell Hill/Lord Leas Roundabout, A229 Blue Bell Hill/Chatham Road/Royal Engineers Road/Fairmeadow

Bailey Bridge Road, Aylesford

Temporary suspension of weight 7.5 ton restriction

A229 Royal Engineers Road

Closed from the slip road of the roundabout for its entire length

HIGHWAYS – SEVENOAKS AREA

**B2026 STATION ROAD, EDENBRIDGE, SEVENOAKS
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2014
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**

Because of the application of high friction surfacing, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on B2026 Station Road, Edenbridge, Sevenoaks, on or after 23rd March 2014 for up to 1 night between 20:00 hrs to 05:00hrs or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed 50m in both directions from a point 30m south of Westways and there will be no access for through traffic at this location.

The alternative route is FOR LIGHT VEHICLES ONLY NOT SUITABLE FOR HGVs: B2027 Four Elms Road, Bough Beech Road, Clinton Road, Chequers Hill, Hever Road, High Street and Mont St Aignan Way.

**WEALD ROAD, SEVENOAKS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2014****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**

Because Cappagh Morrison require access for a Sewer Connection, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Weald Road, Sevenoaks on or after 5th April 2014 for up to 14 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed outside 1 Weald Road.

There will be no access for through traffic at this location.

The alternative route is via A225 Tonbridge road, Gracious Lane and Weald Road.

**KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF
TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2014****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION
(SPECIAL EVENTS) ACT 1994 SECTION 16A****DARENTH VALLEY 10K VARIOUS ROADS SEVENOAKS**

Kent County Council gives Notice that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst an event is being held on the highway on 6th April 2014 between the hours of 08:30am-10:30am, Kent County Council intends to make an Order as noted in Schedule 1 the effect will be to temporarily prohibit the use of Vehicles on:-

SCHEDULE 1

Road Name:	High Street, Eynsford Road, Eynsford
Extent:	Northbound from the entrance to Anthony Roper School to the junction with Gorse Hill. Southbound from 150 yards North of Priory Lane up to the entrance to Anthony Roper School.
Diversion:	N/A
Road Name:	High Street, Farningham
Extent:	In both directions between its junction with Eynsford Road and Sparepenney Lane.
Road Name:	Sparepenney Lane, Farningham
Extent:	In both directions between its junction with High Street, Farningham and Riverside.
Diversion:	from Wested Lane/Crockenhill Lane via the A20 and Eynsford Road.
Road Name:	Lullingstone Lane, Eynsford
Extent:	In both directions between Riverside and Lullingstone Castle.
Diversion:	N/A
Road Name:	Castle Road, Eynsford
Extent:	In both directions between the South side of the entrance to Lullingstone Park Visitors Centre and the junction with Castle Farm Road.
Diversion:	via High Street, Shoreham and the A225.

For further information, please contact
Kent County Council Highways and Transportation,
on 03000 418181 (local rate)
or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways



The Order will become effective on 30th March 2014. The restrictions/prohibitions specified in this notice will apply only during such times and to such extent as indicated by traffic signs in operation.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be: as noted in Schedule 1.

Nothing in the Order will apply to:

- Any Vehicle being used for Ambulance purposes, Coastguard/RNLI, Fire Brigade or Police services.
- Anything done by a Statutory Undertaker vehicle in connection with an emergency repair.
- Anything done with the permission or at the direction of a KCC traffic Marshall, Event Organisers or a Police Constable in Uniform

For further information please contact Kent County Council Roadworks North West Team on 03000 418181.

HIGHWAYS – SWALE AREA

HALSTOW LANE & THE STREET, LOWER HALSTOW (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2014 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

Because of works to install village gateways, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on sections of Halstow Lane and The Street, Lower Halstow, on or after 31 March 2014.

HALSTOW LANE will be closed from 31 March 2014 for up to 2 days

The closure is in the vicinity of the cricket ground.

The alternative route is via Halstow Lane, Holywell Lane and Breach Lane

THE STREET will be closed from 2 April 2014 for up to 2 days

The closure is in the vicinity of Neptune Bungalow, to the north of the junction with Vicarage Lane

The alternative route is via Sheerness Road, Basser Hill, High Oak Hill, Wardwell Lane and Vicarage Lane

Due to the nature of the works, it is unlikely that roads can be re-opened outside working hours

HIGH STREET, BLUETOWN, SHEERNESS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2014 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

Because of works to install new water connections to Sheerness Docks, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of High Street, Bluetown, Sheerness.

A closure is planned to commence from 1 April 2014 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

High Street will be closed in the vicinity of number 31, with no through access between High Street and Chapel Street.

The alternative route is via High Street, A249 Brielle Way and Chapel Street.

The One-way Traffic Order in respect of High Street, Bluetown will be suspended from the roundabout junction with High Street to the junction with Chapel Street, to allow essential access from either direction up to where the road is closed.

Due to the nature of these works, it will not be possible to re-open the road outside the working hours.

HIGHWAYS – THANET AREA

COXES LANE, BROADSTAIRS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2014

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

Because of carriageway pothole repairs, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of Coxes Lane, Broadstairs.

Coxes Lane will be closed between the junctions with Fairlawn Road and Northwood Road.

Closures are planned to commence from 3 April 2014 for up to 2 days from 08:30 to 16:00.

The alternative route is via Coxes Lane, A254 Margate Road and Northwood Road.

HARBOUR STREET, BROADSTAIRS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2014 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

To allow building repairs to be safely carried out, Kent County Council has made an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of Harbour Street, Broadstairs.

Harbour Street will be closed in the vicinity of York Gate House.

A closure is planned to commence from 17 March 2014 with estimated completion by Friday 4 April 2014.

There is no alternative route. Access will remain for pedestrians. Arrangements are in place to allow access for services, deliveries and emergency vehicles.

Harbour Street car park will be closed.

Due to the nature of these works, it will not be possible to re-open the road outside the working hours.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (ST PETERS ROAD, MARGATE) (TOUCAN CROSSING) ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

NOTICE is hereby given that the Kent County Council, in exercise of its powers under section 23 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and after consultation with the Chief Officer of Police, is installing a toucan crossing as per the location in Schedule 1:

SCHEDULE 1

ROAD	DESCRIPTION
St Peters Road, Margate	A position 20 metres north-west of the centre line of Broadley Road.

HIGHWAYS – TONBRIDGE & MALLING AREA

A20 LONDON ROAD, EAST MALLING (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2014 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

Because it is necessary to lay BT ducting in the carriageway, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic travelling at any speed greater than 30mph on A20 London Road, East Malling, on or after 5 April 2014 for up to 7 days or until the works have been completed.

The restriction will be from Lunsford Lane to 30m east of Winterfield Lane.

PINE TREE LANE & HIGH CROSS ROAD, IGHTHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2014 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

Because of carriageway patching, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Pine Tree Lane on or after 17 March 2014 and High Cross Road on or after 19 March 2014 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The alternative route for Pine Tree Lane is via Coach Road and Stone Street Road and for High Cross Road is via A227 Tonbridge Road and Ismays Road.

A228 SEVEN MILE LANE, EAST PECKHAM (TEMPORARY 30MPH SPEED RESTRICTION) TEMPORARY ORDER 2014 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

Because of sign clearance and hedge cutting, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic travelling at any greater speed than 30mph on A228 Seven Mile Lane, East Peckham, on or after 17 March 2014 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The restriction is between A26 Alders roundabout and B2015 Maidstone Road roundabout.

TAYLORS LANE, TROTTISCLIFFE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2014 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

Because of remedial works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Taylors Lane, Trottiscliffe, on or after 18 March 2014 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at the junction with Green Lane.

The alternative route is via Vigo Hill, A227 Gravesend Road, A20 London Road, Ford Lane and The Street.

HIGHWAYS – WEST KENT AREA

VARIOUS ROADS, KENT (RESURFACING) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2014 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

To allow a programme of carriageway resurfacing works to be carried out, Kent County Council has made an Order to restrict traffic on various roads in Kent, as shown below.

The Order will become effective on or after 17th March 2014 for up to 18 months, or until the works have been completed.

The planned dates and times for each road closure or restriction are shown below, in a Schedule listed in alphabetical order of District.

Planned dates will be indicated by signage displayed on site 14 days in advance. Road closures and other restrictions will be in effect when the appropriate signage and barriers are in place.

Every effort will be made to keep to the schedule shown below. Some minor modifications may be made to dates and duration of works, to be advised once known.

Adverse weather conditions may prevent some works being carried out on the planned dates.

Roads that are missed will be re-scheduled, as advised locally and signposted on site.

SCHEDULE

DARTFORD

A296 PRINCES ROAD (JUNCTION 1B), DARTFORD

Phase 1 – Princes Road eastbound approach to Junction 1B, closed between A296 Park Road to Junction 1B gyratory.

Diversion will be via A296 Park Road, A226 The Brent, B2500 Watling Street and A296 Princes Road.

Phase 2 – Princes Road westbound approach to Junction 1B, closed between Gore Road to Junction 1B gyratory.

Diversion will be via B2500 Watling Street, A226 The Brent, A296 Park Road and A296 Princes Road.

Closures: 28th April 2014 to 8th May 2014 – 10.00pm until 05.00am (excluding weekend/bank holiday working)

A296 PRINCES ROAD (EASTBOUND ONLY), DARTFORD

Closed eastbound only between Junction 1B gyratory and Gore Road

29th April 2014 to 2nd May 2014 – 10.00pm until 5.00am

Diversion will be via B2500 Watling Street, A226 The Brent, A296 Park Road and A296 Princes Road. (to be carried out in the middle of the Junction 1B works above)

B2174 ST JAMES LANE, DARTFORD

Closed between A296 Watling Street and A226 London Road

17th March to 19th March 2014 – 09:30 until 15:00

Diversion will be via A296 Watling Street, B2500 Watling Street, A226 The Brent and A226 London Road

B262 BETSHAM ROAD/SANDBANKS HILL, SOUTHFLEET

Closed between B260 Green Street Green Road and Westwood Road

6th May to 14th May 2014 – 09:30 until 15:30 (excluding weekends)

Diversion will be via B260 Green Street Green Road, B260 Main Road, New Barn Road and B262 Station Road

GRAVESHAM

A2260 SPRINGHEAD ROAD, NORTHFLEET

Closed between Hall Road Roundabout to Waterdales

25th April 2014 to 30th April 2014 – 8.00pm until 02.00am (excluding weekend) Diversion will be via A2 Watling Street, B259, A2260 and A226 Thames Way Maidstone

B2246 Fountain Lane, Barming

Closed between its junction with A26 Tonbridge Road and Heath Grove.

Diversion via the B2246 Hermitage Lane, A20 London Road and the A20 Terrace Road.

22 to 25 April 2014 – 21:00 to 05:00

Farleigh Lane, Barming

Closed between its junction with A26 Tonbridge Road and Glebe Lane.

Diversion via Glebe Lane.

22 to 25 April 2014 – 21:00 to 05:00

SEVENOAKS

A25 WESTERHAM ROAD, CHEVENING

Closed WESTBOUND between A21 Sevenoaks By-Pass Northbound off-slip to A21 Sevenoaks By-Pass Southbound on-slip

15th May 2014 to 16th May 2014 – 9.00pm until 5.00am

Diversion will be via southbound A21 Sevenoaks By-Pass, exit at Riverhill and return back onto A21 Sevenoaks By-Pass Northbound.

TONBRIDGE & MALLING

Hall Road, Aylesford

Closed between its junctions with Station Road and The Avenue

Diversion via the A20 and Station Road

24 April 2014 – 19:00 to 05:00

A227 Shipbourne Road, Hadlow

Closed between its junctions with Puttenden Road and Back Lane

Diversion via the B245 London Road, A225 Riverhill, A225 Tonbridge Road, A225 High Street, A225 Dartford, A225 St John's Hill, A25 Seal Road, A25 High Street, A25 Maidstone Road, A25 Sevenoaks Road, A225 Ightham By-Pass, A227 Borough Green Road, A227 Bates Hill, A227 Tonbridge Road and the A227 Ightham Road.

16 April 2014 – 22:00 to 05:00

Branbridges Road, East Peckham

Closed between its junctions with A228 Boyle Way and Old Road

Diversion via the A228 Boyle Way, Maidstone Road and Hale Street.

17 April 2014 – 22:00 to 05:00

ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS

A229 HIGHGATE HILL, HAWKHURST

Closed between its junctions with the A268 and The Moor

Diversion via the A268, the A21 and the A229.

30th April 2014 to 6th May 2014 – 19:00 to 06:00

(excluding weekend/bank holiday working)

John Burr
Director of Highways & Transportation
Kent County Council
Invicta House
County Hall,
Maidstone
Kent ME14 1XQ

Dated 16th March 2014

For further information, please contact
Kent County Council Highways and Transportation,
on 03000 418181 (local rate)
or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways



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Mrs Church, Lowestoft

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Entertainment

GN Voyages is exclusively chartering the mps Princess again to bring you a great selection of river cruises. She will deliver us to a host of must-see destinations with good food, great hospitality and plenty of fun along the way served up by the crew and our team on board.

Affectionately nicknamed 'the ugly duckling' here at GN, the mps Princess has a very fine interior indeed accommodating just 100 guests in comfort and style. There is a cosy lounge-bar, and a modern restaurant with buffet and table service - both have panoramic views. Dinner is a real highlight with 4 courses served at your table each night. At the Captain's Dinner enjoy 5 courses.

Three cabin grades are available - main deck rear, main deck, and promenade deck - all are outside with window, two single beds, private facilities, TV, telephone and heating. All the decks - main, promenade and sundeck are accessible by stairs or stairlift. The large sundeck has chairs for all guests and a large canopy.

Semi-All Inclusive

Almost everything on board is included: beer, wine by the glass, Dutch spirits & soft drinks served at lunch & dinner and from 6pm to midnight at the bar. PLUS: buffet breakfast & lunch; morning & afternoon tea/coffee & cakes; dinner served at your table and late night snacks.

Travel to the Princess

Travel is by mid-morning Eurostar from St Pancras and Ebbsfleet to Brussels - journey time is around 2 hours. We then take you to the Princess by coach, either directly, or with an interesting visit en route - see individual cruise itinerary. The journey home is just as easy.

*Note: For the Rhine cruise we continue from Brussels by train to Cologne, or you can fly from Gatwick. In November and December some Eurostar trains are to or from Lille.

All cruises include

- Return Eurostar rail travel from London St Pancras or Ebbsfleet to Brussels (*Rhine in Flames also by air from Gatwick)
- Semi-all-inclusive cruise on the mps Princess
- Main Deck rear, outside, twin bed cabin with private facilities (grade MR2). No single cabins available
- Entertainment
- Transfers abroad

*The Rhine in Flames by Rail & Air

2 October, 2014



This fun-packed cruise passes romantic hilltop castles and picturesque vineyards, and visits historic riverside towns including Andernach, Rudesheim, Koblenz and Boppard, where you'll see the Rhine in Flames festival. Originally held to celebrate the grape harvest, this spectacular pyrotechnics show features an illuminated flotilla of riverboats and curtains of fire, bathing the riverbanks and landmarks in a magical glow.

Ports & Places: Cologne > Andernach > Rudesheim > Boppard - Rhine in Flames festival > Koblenz > Cologne

5 DAYS SEMI-ALL INCLUSIVE FROM £649PP
Cabin: MR2 £649; MD2 £699; PD2 £789
Quote: RH10-KOS

The Great War & Armistice Day in Ypres

8 November, 2014



This thought-provoking, yet light-hearted cruise through history combines some significant places and commemorations associated with the First World War, including Armistice Day in Ypres, the story of the First and Last in Mons and the Plugstreet 14-18 experience. You will also visit Belgium's most historic and beautiful cities - Brussels, Gent and Bruges.

Ports & Places: Antwerp > Brussels > Mons > Gent > Ypres - 11th November Armistice Day commemorations & In Flanders Fields Museum > Bruges > Plugstreet 14-18 Experience

6 DAYS SEMI-ALL INCLUSIVE FROM £699PP
Cabin: MR2 £699; MD2 £749; PD2 £839
Quote: WW11-KOS

Belgium & Holland Christmas Party with Valkenburg Christmas Market Caves

21 November, 2014



Ports & Places: Hasselt - Winter Wonderland > Maastricht > Valkenburg - Christmas Markets Caves > Optional Aachen Christmas Market, Germany

4 DAYS SEMI-ALL INCLUSIVE FROM £379PP
Cabin: MR2 £379; MD2 £419; PD2 £509
Quote: PC11-3-KOS

Bruges & Valkenburg Christmas Markets & Ypres

24 November, 2014



Ports & Places: Maastricht > Valkenburg - Christmas Markets Caves* > Antwerp > Ypres - In Flanders WW1 Fields Museum > Bruges Christmas Market

5 DAYS SEMI-ALL INCLUSIVE FROM £479PP
Cabin: MR2 £479; MD2 £529; PD2 £629
Quote: PC11-4-KOS

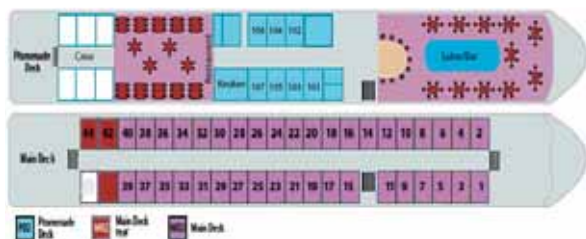
Christmas Markets Spectacular Lille, Bruges, Ypres & Brussels

28 November & 1 December, 2014



Ports & Places: Lille Christmas Market > Bruges Christmas Market > Ypres small Christmas Market & In Flanders WW1 Museum* > Brussels Christmas Market

4 DAYS SEMI-ALL INCLUSIVE FROM £379PP
Cabin: MR2 £379; MD2 £419; PD2 £509
Quote: PC11-5/6-KOS



The legend may have gone but his name lives on at Priestfield

Jake Hessenthaler has the unenviable task of picking up where his father Andy left off. The pair talk to **Greg Miles** about being a footballing family.

“HE still goes on about the goal at Stoke,” says Jake Hessenthaler, referring, of course, to his dad’s dramatic wonder-goal in the 1999/2000 play-off semi-final.

But this week Hess the younger certainly gave himself plenty to boast about around the dinner table with his dad after netting a 40-yarder that went in off the bar in the win over Coventry City on Tuesday, his first goal in Gills colours.

Not a bad way to open his account, but it does not quite have the fate-defining edge of his father’s, which ensured the first leg against the Poters finished 3-2 in the depths of injury time. That goal kept the Gills in it as they won 3-0 after extra-time back at Priestfield and then beat Wigan Athletic in the final to reach the dizzy heights of the First Division for the first time.

A few weeks later, manager Peter Taylor left for Premier League Leicester City and Hessy took up the player-manager role that cemented his place in the club’s folklore.

So it is quite understandable if his now-teenage son Jake feels a little daunted at the prospect of following in Dad’s footsteps.

Quite rightly proud of what his tough-tackling father achieved, he admits he will be pleased if he gets half as far in his career, which has developed this year with 13 first-team appearances under Taylor, now back at Priestfield 14 years on from when he left.

“I started knowing more and more about what he did as I got older and I’m proud of what he’s done,” he said.

Although he may not remember it too well, he was often on the Priestfield pitch in the warm-ups, scoring in the Rainham End as a child. But he does have a few memories of watching his dad in action, and particularly of his mum not wanting to join him.

“She didn’t like watching Dad,” he said. “She knew he would make a bad tackle or get sent off or something like that. The one game I remember really well was Sheffield Wednesday.

“Leon Knight was going down the wing and my old man came across and snapped him in half. He got sent off. I remember when he rugby-tackled someone as well.”

That red card was back in 2002, the year Jake joined Chelsea’s academy, having impressed at one of their soccer schools in Canterbury.

“I enjoyed my time there. I got a good upbringing with the coaches and the technical side of things,” said Jake, who signed a four-year deal with Gills in January.

“When I signed for Chelsea, Zola was still playing. He was the best player there and we could get their autographs at the time. Jose Mourinho turned up when I was 12. He came to training and I met him. That was amazing.”

The competitive nature of a Premier League academy saw Hess pushed down the pecking order and caused him to fall out of love with the game.

“When I was getting older there



FOLLOWING FOOTSTEPS: Jake Hessenthaler has broken into the first team at Gillingham this season and has caught the eye with a run of steady performances while drawing comparisons with his father, Gills hero Andy

and you’re not playing you don’t get to go on tours and things,” he said.

“It hit me hard and I didn’t enjoy it for the last year I was there. I could have stayed another year, but they told me I wouldn’t get anything beyond that so I decided to leave and look for a scholarship.

“I fell out of love with football at the time and started playing a lot of golf. I started liking it more than football at the time.

“But I came here at 16 and did my scholarship. The first year I was in and out, playing right-back or left-back. The second year we were flying in the youth league.”

During that time his dad has been

“ The one game I remember well was Sheffield Wednesday. Leon Knight was going down the wing and my old man snapped him in half ”

Jake Hessenthaler,
on watching his dad, Andy, play

KMI

there when he can to watch him play and obviously has advice to give.

“He’s still my harshest critic now,” said Jake. “It helped me as I got older – there’s no point telling me I had a good game if I didn’t.

“When I wake up in the morning he’s still in bed and when I come home he’s out coaching and at weekend’s he’s scouting. I don’t see him that much. But he’s still on at me to get in the gym or eat better.

“I didn’t think about being like my dad, but I did want a bit of his passion and aggression. Because I was brought up at Chelsea we got taught to play more technically.

“The game has changed since he played – you can’t go around two-footing people any more. You have to be a better tackler.”

Jake displayed plenty of that technical ability with his goal against Coventry on Tuesday, which sadly his father missed as he was elsewhere on a scouting trip.

It came in the final minute when he picked up a headed clearance from Coventry keeper Joe Murphy, who was stranded out of his goal.

“I tried to read what the keeper was going to do. I tried to read where it was going to go. I got there first and heard the crowd shout. I thought what have I got to lose. It crept in un-

der the bar and I was delighted,” he said. “I didn’t try to hit it too hard, I just tried to get it on target. I don’t think I would have ever dreamed of scoring that – I would have taken a tap-in, to be honest.

“The one at Stoke was a better occasion, so I might let my dad have that one.”

Although it was his first goal for two years, Jake has netted at the Rainham End before, as dad Andy recalls.

“He was involved at a relatively young age when I was at Gillingham under Tony Pulis,” he said. “We had a little ritual going that he would come out with us for the warm-up.

“He was about three or four at the time and every home game he would try to score in the Rainham End and we started winning games.

“Tony said ‘Let him carry on doing that’ and he became our little mascot. From then onwards you could see he loved the game. I always thought he would play football.

“Deep down you would love to see your son follow you into the game. I always thought he would develop into a player. I didn’t do a lot of pushing on him.”

Managers often bring their sons through a club they are at, but letting

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Pictures: ADY KERRY



“He was about three or four at the time and every home game he would try to score in the Rainham End and we started winning games”

Andy Hessenthaler,
on his son being a lucky mascot

Jake stay at Chelsea was a no-brainer as far as Andy is concerned.

“It wasn’t a case of not wanting him at Gillingham, but he was doing well at Chelsea,” he said. “He’s had to take on a lot over the last few years, especially when your dad is working at the club.”

“There are always the cynics around that will say he’s there because I was there, but it’s all down to Jake. It’s not me and my name. I’ve got a great association with the club and he’s carried that on.”

Their football paths crossed for three years when Andy came back to the club as manager for the 2010/11 and 2011/12 seasons, while he was a director on the board last campaign.

“When you’re at work together, that’s what it is: work,” he said.

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“When we are at home it’s father and son. It was a working relationship, which is what I expected.”

Jake’s emergence has naturally drawn comparisons with his father, and they are there to see, both being tenacious in the tackle and covering every blade of grass. However, Gills boss Taylor, who managed Andy in the promotion-winning season in 1999/2000, feels his son might be better on the ball.

“I have had a bit of stick about that, but Peter’s right,” said Andy. “That development he’s had at Chelsea I never had. At a young age I was playing out on the streets, not having an academy and that training.”

“It’s helped his technical side of the game and he’s in front of me. I could pass, but he’s got a better range of passing and is a quicker thinker.”

As for his wife, she finds it just as hard watching her son these days.

“She puts herself through hell,” said Andy. “I don’t know why she goes. Sometimes she watches a bit then goes to the bar – it’s understandable.”

“I’m quite comfortable watching him play now.”



BIG FAVOURITE:
Andy Hessenthaler

Tough Gills act to follow

■ **Andy Hessenthaler**
Born: August 17, 1965

■ **Gills player stats:**
364 appearances, 29 goals
■ **Gills manager stats:**
329 games, 116 won
35 per cent win record in two spells, 2000-04 and 2010-12

■ **Clubs:** Corinthian, Dartford, Redbridge Forest, Watford, Gillingham, Hull, Barnet, Dover Athletic

ANDY Hessenthaler has become a figure synonymous with the Gills on and off the pitch in the modern era.

He became a fans’ favourite for his tough tackling and energetic displays after arriving for a reported record fee of £235,000 in 1996.

He was a latecomer to the professional game, having worked as a builder while at non-league Dartford, Corinthian and Redbridge Forest.

He got his big move in 1991 when Watford signed him – 195 appearances later, he left for the Gills.

Aside from his bustling displays, he scored the odd notable goal, too. His winner against Preston North End in the semi-final of the Division Two play-offs in 1998/99 set up that unbearably famous defeat to Manchester City in the final.

The following year things were put right with a play-off final over Wigan Athletic, after which current manager Peter Taylor left.

It paved the way for Hussy’s step into management as player-manager. He guided the club to their best-ever Football League finish of 11th in Division One in the 2002/03 season.

However, he quit in November the following season after a poor start.

He stayed on as player but departed in January 2006 for Barnet in League Two,

returning for the 2010/11 season as manager until stepping down and taking up the director of football post with the club at the end of the 2011/12 campaign.

Since leaving that role last year he has taken up a coaching post at Soccer Elite Football Academy in the county and is Championship side Burnley’s chief scout in the South East.

Sport Shorts » Email sports@kosmedia.co.uk or call Greg Miles on 01303 817177

Title-winner Allen makes Margate switch from Gills

FORMER Gillingham midfielder Charlie Allen has signed for Margate.

The 22-year-old, who won the League Two title with the Gills last season, signed for the Ryman Premier club in time to make his debut in the 2-1 defeat to Kingstonian at the weekend.

He left Priestfield last month after deciding to cancel his contract with the club in a bid to kick-start his stalling career.

Allen had not played for the Gills since October, when his father, Martin Allen, was sacked as manager at the club. His appearance in the 2-0 defeat at Shrewsbury was also his father’s last as manager.

He did go on loan to Tamworth in the Conference Premier but played just a few minutes after picking up a straight red card that ruled him out of the rest of his time with the Lambs.



ALLEN: Coup for Gate



WINNER: Evans, left, in action

Hutch getting set for BSB season

FFX Yamaha’s Ian Hutchinson started testing in Spain this weekend ahead of the 2014 British Superbike Championship.

Hutchinson, racing for the Folkestone-backed team, was out in Cartagena and Alcarraas with team-mate Andy Reid, who will be riding in the Pirelli National Superstock 600 Championship this season.

It was Hutchinson’s first ride since winning the Macau Grand Prix last November.

Hutchinson said: “I just focused on doing my own thing at the tests, but we have really done some mileage. I am still learning a lot about the Superbike and being back on the circuits but it has been really good.”

“I am looking forward now to getting back on one of the BSB circuits for another test as that will have a bit more relevance.”

McKain heads to Bromley on loan

GILLINGHAM youngster Devante McKain has joined Bromley on loan for a month.

The 19-year-old signed for the Gills from Maidenhead United in November 2012. He made his debut as a sub in the final game of last season and also came off the bench against Crawley in September.

Clarke pens deal for BTCC challenge

MOTORBASE Performance has unveiled Jack Clarke as the newest driver in its British Touring Car Championship set-up.

The 22-year-old will race for the

Wrotham-based team under the Crabbies Racing banner this season.

He has previously been successful in the Formula Two championship and GT racing.

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